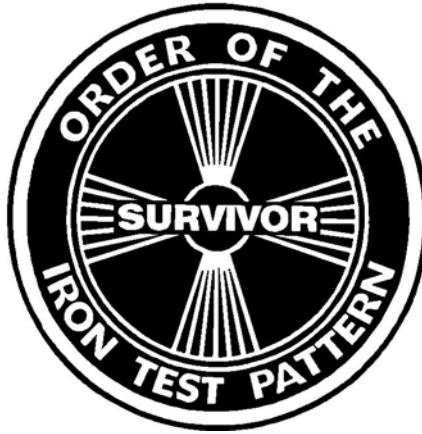
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Order of the Iron Test Pattern



Volume 2

Newsletter

Number 9

News! When it happens you'll see it happen, even if we have to make it happen!

October 13, 2003

This is your Newsletter and your input is, of course, most welcome.

(Things printed in **blue** type are links to the related subject matter.)

New, Upgraded or Reinstated Members

Tony Newman is a new member and has the dignity of Commodore. If you wish to congratulate him, his E-mail address is tnewman@cmc.net. OITP Commodore Newman is an Engineer at KEZI-TV in Eugene, Oregon.

L. Brent Hall is a new member and has the dignity of Brigadier. If you wish to congratulate him, his E-mail address is bhall@ksl.com. OITP Brigadier Hall is VTR supervisor at KSL-TV in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Edward J. Liberatore is a new member and has the dignity of Ensign. If you wish to congratulate him, his E-mail address is ejliberatore@aol.com. OITP Ensign Liberatore is Chief of Broadcast Operations at the Federal Judicial Center in Washington, DC.

Danny B. Swope is a new member and has the dignity of Admiral. If you wish to congratulate him, his E-mail address is Danintv@aol.com. OITP Admiral Swope is an Engineer at KTRK-TV in Houston, Texas.

Kenneth Hunold is a new member and has the dignity of Brigadier. If you wish to congratulate him, his E-mail address is KRH@Dolby.com. OITP Brigadier is a Broadcast Applications Engineer with Dolby Labs in New York City, New York.

Terry A. Fry is upgrading his dignity to that of Galactic Tycoon. If you wish to congratulate him, his E-mail address is Terryfry927@aol.com. Galactic Tycoon Fry is the Executive Director of the National Applied Science Development Center in Atlanta, Georgia.

Jim Borgioli is a new member and has the dignity of General. If you wish to congratulate him, his E-mail address is JBorgi@aol.com. OITP General Borgioli is a consultant with Digital Broadcast Design Engineers in Camell, Indiana.

Dan Stoe is a new member and has the dignity of Brigadier. If you wish to congratulate him, his E-mail address is DStoe@KVAL.com. OITP Brigadier Steo is Chief Engineer of KVAL-TV in Eugene, Oregon.

Ronald J. Boucher, Jr. is a new member and has the dignity of Admiral. If you wish to congratulate him, his E-mail address is rbouch8828@aol.com. OITP Admiral Boucher is Director of Product Management at Thomson Grass Valley in Woburn, Massachusetts.

Richard Jenkins is a new member and has the dignity of Brigadier. If you wish to congratulate him, his E-mail address is djenkins@cmc.net. OITP Brigadier is a Maintenance Engineer at KEZI-TV in Eugene, Oregon.

Gerald (Geoff) Bailey is a reinstating member and now has the dignity of Admiral. If you wish to welcome him back, his E-mail address is admin@weircliffe.com. OITP Admiral Bailey is the Managing Director of Weircliffe International, LTD in Exeter, Devon, England.

Bruce A. Kaiser is a new member and has the dignity of General. If you wish to congratulate him, his E-mail address is BAK@LightningMaster.com. OITP General Kaiser is the President of LightningMasters in Clearwater, Florida.

Links to previous editions are now available on the website.

Website Status Report

Check out the number of visitors to our website: 6552 plus. That's over two hundred twenty since our last edition. Remember that this counter service only counts a visiting IP address once. So when do we get some of these folks to join and invest in a certificate to hang on their wall, get a lapel pin to do what ever with, a drive you crazy screen saver or even take out a business card ad on our business card page? If we could, we'd really be setting quite well.

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From your Sagacious Pixel

Larry Bloomfield

Hay! Check it out. We've got eleven folks up above. If we could do this every month, who knows? We might get back up to the several thousand we once had. We've seen our membership increase from 246 to 393. If anyone has any ideas on how we could promote and spread the word about this most august Order, please let us know. If each of our survivor members could encourage just one of their associates, we could really grow, as we should.

Several of our Business Card sponsors are due for renewal. If you are one of those really wonderful folks, you can tell when your time for renewal is by the code at the bottom of the display. Now if we could get a couple of business to sponsor full pages, we'd really be doing just fine.

It's time to start thinking about awards for the up coming NAB 2004; any ideas? Your Sagacious Pixel would like to nominate Dr. Bryon St. Clare for the Iron Translator award, Steve Krant for the Iron Automat award, Sue Clark for the Iron Snake award and Kellie McKeown for the Iron Consultant award.

The computer problems were far worse than we'd imagined. The one we thought and I mean thought was back up, kept crashing every few hours. After many hours on the phone with Microsoft, they gave us a link to a memory diagnostic tool. It worked. We found that 2/3rds of our RAM was bad. Once replaced, the computer works fine. If anyone would like to know about downloading this free diagnostic tool, let us know and we'll pass it on to you. Now, we've got one computer left to get up and working and it would appear that will take quite a bit of doing. We've sure have learned a lot in all this.



Happy Halloween

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Those who make this newsletter and the website possible

Our website is sustained by sponsorship of the various pages and the business card page. The only page which is currently sponsored is our main page and we are really grateful to the folks at [DSC Labs](#) for their help in this area. David Corley is serious considering renewing his sponsorship of our main page as his first year is coming to a close. Contact us about any of the other pages. -- Sagacious_Pixel@OITP.org.

On the business card page, we have [Clark Wire & Cable](#), [McKeown Consulting](#), [AJA Video Systems](#), [Dorrough Electronics](#), [Michael Couzens - Attorney at Law](#), [Thomson Broadcast Solutions/Grass Valley](#), [BIA Finical Network](#), [DL Creations](#) and [Bloomfield Enterprises](#). As said earlier, many of these are coming up for renewal also. Click on any of the names (above) and it will either take you to their website or give you an e-mail to them. Check them out; use them – if and when you need their products and/or services, but most important, **let them** know you appreciate their support of OITP. If you wish to put your business card on our site, contact us. Sagacious_Pixel@OITP.org.

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Swallowed whole



Jim Lavrakas / Anchorage Daily News

A rainbow trout fingerling peers out from the gullet of a northern pike at the Alaska Department of Fish & Game aquarium in Anchorage. This is the first in a series of pictures selected as the best of the year that you will find throughout this edition.

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We're Putting on a Seminar

(And it's free and lunch is on us)

Subject: TV & FM Translators – DTV – LPTV - LPFM

The subject matter is so timely, the same seminar at three venues:

1. Tuesday, November 4, 2003, in Portland, OR, at KWBP-TV, 10255 SW Arctic Dr., Beaverton, OR 97005
2. Wednesday, November 5, 2003, in Eugene, OR, at KLSR/KEVU-TV (2nd Floor), 2940 Chad Drive, Eugene, OR
3. Thursday, November 6, 2003, in Medford, OR, at Southern Oregon Public Television, 34 S. Fir St., Medford, OR 97501

Starting time: 10 AM at each venue.

Major Topic 1: FCC NPRM for DTV translators and LPTV

Dr. Byron St Clair will lead a discussion on rules for digital low power television translators and LPTV stations. We will have copies of the NPRM available for those interested.

Major Topic 2: A Case Study

How to use the new 8VSB signal from the local primary stations to enormously enhance the quality of translator signals. This will include the 8VSB transmission equipment as well as the test equipment. We will discuss the 8VSB transcoder which is used as a front end for translators. The transcoder has 2 outputs: (Both outputs may be used simultaneously.)

Analog audio and video

8VSB signal

Kent Parsons will speak about the Transcoder, set top boxes, and heterodyne processors.

Major Topic 3: LPFM and FM Translators

We will present the features, functions and benefits of the LARCAN-USA LPFM and FM Translator line.

Major Topic 4: SENCORE on IRD Testing

RSVP by Friday, October 31, 2003 so we can plan for lunch and chairs. To register, [Click here](#).

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Letters from our fellow survivors

Hello to all.



Just got these in: One RCA TK-14 and a RCA TK-31A. The 31 came with no VF. I had a spare, and will have to paint it. Both cameras seem in good shape, and I will try to get them working soon.

No, don't write me and say "I WANT THOSE VF SHADES"!!! I took them off my other two TK-31s for the photos! I still only have two of them. All of you who need them, are still on the list!

More photos of these cameras to come to the web site in a few days.

Stay tuned for photos of a complete RCA TG-1 Sync Generator that I am putting together.

<http://www.pharis-video.com>

See ya,
Chuck. OITP General

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Good Advice

We pass along jokes; we pass along just about everything. Do think about passing this information along. It could really help someone. An attorney friend of mine sent this out to his friends and the employees in his company. I pass it along, for your information.

We've all heard horror stories about fraud that's committed in your name, address, SS#, credit, etc. To avert this, place the contents of your wallet on a photocopy machine, do both sides of each license, credit card, etc., you will know what you had in your wallet and all of the account numbers and phone numbers to call and cancel. Keep the photocopy in a safe place. I have a scanner and will be more than willing to do this for you.

This advice came from an attorney friend who, unfortunately has firsthand knowledge; his wallet was stolen awhile back and within a week the thief(s) ordered an expensive monthly cell phone package, applied for a VISA credit card, had a credit line approved to buy a Gateway computer, received a PIN number from DMV to change his driving record information online, and more.

But here's some critical information he passed on that will limit the damage in case this happens to you or someone you know. As everyone always advises, cancel your credit cards immediately, but the key is having the toll free numbers and your card numbers handy so you know whom to call. Keep those where you can find them easily. File a police report immediately in the jurisdiction where it was stolen, this proves to credit providers you were "diligent," and it's a first step toward an investigation (if there ever is one).

But perhaps the most important thing he shared: - Call the three national credit reporting organizations immediately to place a fraud alert on your name and SS#.

He said: "I had never heard of doing that until advised by a bank that called to tell me an application for credit was made over the Internet in my name."

The alert means any company that checks your credit knows your information was stolen and they have to contact you by phone to authorize new credit. By the time he was advised to do this, almost 2 weeks after the theft, all the damage had been done. There are records of all the credit checks initiated by the thieves' purchases, none of which he knew about before placing the alert. Since then, no additional damage has been done, and the thieves threw his wallet away this weekend (someone turned it in). It seems to have stopped them in their tracks."

- The numbers are:
- Equifax: 1-800-525-6285
- Experian (formerly TRW): 1-888-397-3742
- Trans Union: 1-800-680-7289
- Social Security Administration (fraud line): 1-800-269-0271

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Infantryman



The average age of the infantryman is 19 years. He is a short haired, tight-muscled kid who, under normal circumstances is considered by society as half man, half boy. Not yet dry behind the ears, but old enough to die for his country. He never really cared much for work and he would rather wax his own car than wash his father's; but he has never collected unemployment either. He's a recent High School graduate; he was probably an average student, pursued some form of sport activities, drives a ten year old jalopy, and has a steady girlfriend that either broke up with him when he left, or swears to be waiting when he returns from half a world away. He listens to rock and roll or jazz or swing and 155mm Howitzers. He is 10 or 15 pounds lighter now than when he was at home because he is working or fighting from before dawn to well after dusk.

He has trouble spelling, thus letter writing is a pain for him, but he can field strip a rifle in 30 seconds and reassemble it in less. He can recite to you the nomenclature of a machine gun or grenade launcher and use either one effectively if he must. He digs foxholes and latrines and can apply first aid like a professional. He can march until he is told to stop or stop until he is told to march. He obeys orders instantly and without hesitation, but he is not without spirit or individual dignity.

He is self-sufficient. He has two sets of fatigues: he washes one and wears the other. He keeps his canteens full and his feet dry. He sometimes forgets to brush his teeth, but never to clean his rifle. He can cook his own meals, mend his own clothes, and fix his own hurts. If you're thirsty, he'll share his water with you; if you are hungry, his food. He'll even split his ammunition with you in the midst of battle when you run low. He has learned to use his hands like weapons and his weapons like they were his hands. He can save your life - or take it, because that is his job.

He will often do twice the work of a civilian, draw half the pay and still find ironic humor in it all. He has seen more suffering and death than he should have in his short lifetime. He has stood atop mountains of dead bodies, and helped to create them. He has wept in public and in private, for friends who have fallen in combat and is unashamed; just as did his Father, Grandfather, and Great-grandfather, he is paying the price for our freedom.

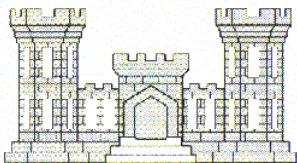
Beardless or not, he is not a boy. He is the American Fighting Man that has kept this country free for over 200 years. He has asked nothing in return, except our friendship and understanding. Remember him, always, for he has earned our respect and admiration with his blood.
He is an Infantryman."

--Author unknown

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Quotes, A Little Humor (Very little) & More

The Engineer



An Engineer is one who passes as an exacting expert on being able to turn out with prolific fortitude strings of incomprehensible formulae calculated with micrometric precision from extremely vague assumptions that are based on debatable figures acquired from inconclusive tests and quite incomplete experiments carried out with instruments of problematic accuracy by persons of doubtful reliability and rather dubious mentality with the particular anticipation of disconcerting everyone outside his own fraternity.

- Source Unknown

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IN THE BEGINNING...

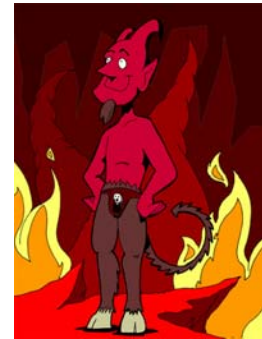


In the beginning God covered the earth with broccoli and cauliflower and spinach, green and yellow and red vegetables of all kinds, so Man and Woman would live long and healthy lives.

Then using God's bountiful gifts, Satan created Ben and Jerry's and Krispy Kreme. And Satan said, "You want hot fudge with that?" And Man said "Yes!" and Woman said, "I'll have another with sprinkles." And lo they gained 10 pounds.

And God created the healthful yogurt that Woman might keep the figure that Man found so fair. And Satan brought forth white flour from the wheat, and sugar from the cane, and combined them.

And Woman went from size 2 to size 14. So God said, "Try my fresh green garden salad." And Satan presented crumbled Bleu Cheese dressing and garlic toast on the side. And Man and Woman unfastened their belts following the repast.



God then said, "I have sent you heart healthy vegetables and olive oil in which to cook them." And Satan brought forth deep fried coconut shrimp, butter dipped lobster chunks and chicken-fried steak so big it needed its own platter. And Man's cholesterol went through the roof.

God then brought forth running shoes so that his Children might lose those extra pounds. And Satan came forth with a cable TV with remote control so Man would not have to toil changing the channels. And man and woman laughed and cried before the flickering light and started wearing stretch jogging suits.

Then God brought forth the potato, naturally low in fat and brimming with potassium and good nutrition. Then Satan peeled off the healthful skin and sliced the starchy center into chips and deep-fried them in animal fats and added copious quantities of salt. And Man put on more pounds.

God then gave lean beef so that Man might consume fewer calories and still satisfy his appetite. And Satan created McDonald's and the 99-cent double cheeseburger. Then Lucifer said, "You want fries with that?" and Man replied, "Yes! And super size 'em!" And Satan said "It is good." And Man went into cardiac arrest.

God sighed and created quadruple bypass surgery. And Satan created HMOs.

Amen

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SAT Q & A



The following questions and answers were collected from SAT's (Scholastic Aptitude Test) given to 16-year-old students in Springdale, Arkansas in 2000.

Q - Name the four seasons.

A - Salt, pepper, mustard, and vinegar.

Q - Explain one of the processes by which water can be made safe to drink.

A - Flirtation makes water safe to drink because it removes large pollutants like grit, sand, dead sheep and canoeists.

Q - How is dew formed?

A - The sun shines down on the leaves and makes them perspire.

Q - What is a planet?

A - A body of earth surrounded by sky.

Q - What causes the tides in the oceans?

A - The tides are a fight between the Earth and the Moon. All water tends to flow towards the moon, because there is no water on the moon, and nature abhors a vacuum. I forget where the sun joins in this fight.

Q - In a democratic society, how important are elections?

A - Very important. Sex can only happen when a male gets an election.

Q - What happens to your body as you age?

A - When you get old, so do your bowels and you get intercontinental.

Q - Name a major disease associated with cigarettes.

A - Premature death.

Q - How can you delay milk turning sour?

A - Keep it in the cow.

Q - How are the main parts of the body categorized? (e.g., abdomen.)

A - The body is consisted into three parts - the brainium, the borax and the abdominal cavity. The brainium contains the brain, the borax contains the heart and lungs, and the abdominal cavity contains the five bowels, A, E, I, O and U.

Q - What is the Fibula?

A - A small lie.

Q - What does "varicose" mean?

A - Nearby.

Q - What is the most common form of birth control?

A - Most people prevent contraception by wearing a condominium.

Q - Give the meaning of the term "Cesarean Section."

A - The cesarean section is a district in Rome.

Q - What is a seizure?

A - A Roman emperor.

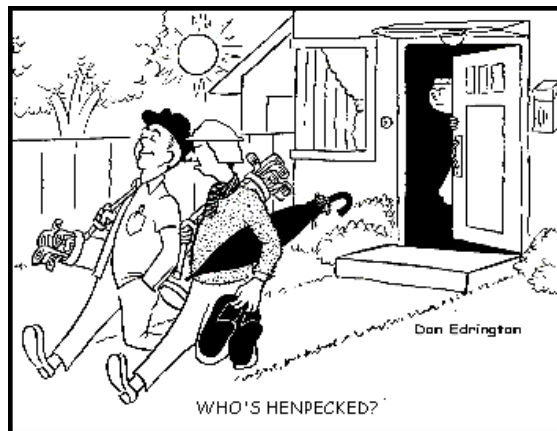
Q - What is a terminal illness?

A - When you are sick at the airport.

Q - What does the word "benign" mean?

A - Benign is what you will be after you be eight.

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Tough Love Grandpa

Dear Abby,

I recently read your column advising grandparents on the subject of "tough-love" for grandparents to use with misbehaving grandchildren, whose own parents let them run wild. I have followed your advice, and have enclosed a picture demonstrating my technique when my grandson gets out of control while I'm babysitting for his parents. They told me not to spank him, so I just take him for a ride, and he usually calms down afterward.



Signed, Tough-Love Grandpa

Every Little Girls Dream

A teacher asked her class, "What do you want out of life?"

A little girl in the back raised her hand and said, " All I want out of life is four animals."

The teacher asked, "Really, and what four animals would that be?"

The little girl replied, "A mink on my back, a jaguar in the garage, a tiger in bed and a jackass to pay for all of it."



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A romp in Russia



Alexander Natruskin / Reuters

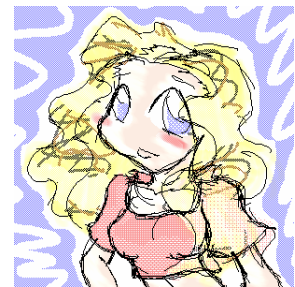
A polar bear cub plays near his mother at the Moscow Zoo.

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The Blond

A girl came skipping home from school one day. "Mommy, Mommy," she yelled, "we were counting today, and all the other kids could only count to four, but I counted to 10. See? 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10!" "Very good," said her mother. "Is it because I'm blonde, Mommy?" "Yes, it's because you're blonde," her mother replied.

The next day, the girl came skipping home from school. "Mommy, Mommy," she yelled, "We were saying the alphabet today, and all the other



kids could only say it to D, but I said it to G. See? A, B, C, D, E, F, G!" "Very good," said her mother. "Is it because I'm blonde, Mommy?" "Yes, pumpkin, it's because you're blonde."

The next day the girl came skipping home from school. "Mommy, Mommy," she yelled, "we were in gym class today, and when we showered, all the other girls had flat chests, but I have these!" And she lifted her tank top to reveal a pair of 36Cs. "Very good," said her embarrassed mother. "Is it because I'm blonde, mommy?" "No, the mother replied, it's because you're 25."

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SNAPPY COMEBACKS

Snappy Answer #1 A flight attendant was stationed at the departure gate to check tickets. As a man approached, she extended her hand for the ticket, and he opened his trench coat and flashed her. Without missing a beat she said, "Sir, I need to see your ticket, not your stub."

Snappy Answer #2 A lady was picking through the frozen turkeys at the grocery store, but couldn't find one big enough for her family. She asked a stock boy, "Do these turkeys get any bigger?" The stock boy replied, "No ma'am, they're dead."

Snappy Answer #3 The cop got out of his car and the kid who was stopped for speeding rolled down his window. "I've been waiting for you all day," the cop said. The kid replied, "Yeah, well I got here as fast as I could." When the cop finally stopped laughing, he sent the kid on his way without a ticket.

Snappy Answer #4 A truck driver is driving along on the freeway. A sign comes up that reads "low bridge ahead." Before he knows it the bridge is right ahead of him and he gets stuck under the bridge. Cars are backed up for miles. Finally, a police car comes up. The cop gets out of his car and walks around to the truck driver, puts his hands on his hips and says, "Got stuck, huh?" The truck driver says, "No, I was delivering this bridge and ran out of gas."

#5, THE TEACHER Snappy Answer OF THE YEAR A college teacher reminds her class of tomorrow's final exam. "Now class, I won't tolerate any excuses for you not being here tomorrow. I might consider a nuclear attack or a serious personal injury or illness, or a death in your immediate family but that's it, no other excuses whatsoever!" A smart-ass guy in the back of the room raised his hand and asks, "What would you say if tomorrow I said I was suffering from complete and utter sexual exhaustion?" The entire class does its best to stifle their laughter and snickering. When silence is restored, the teacher smiles sympathetically at the student, shakes her head, and sweetly says, "Well, I guess you'd have to write the exam with your other hand."

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Limp Parrot



A woman brought a very limp parrot into a veterinary hospital. As she laid her pet on the table, the vet pulled out his stethoscope and listened to the bird's chest. After a moment or two, the vet shook his head sadly and said, "I'm so sorry, Polly has passed away."

The distressed owner wailed, "Are you sure? I mean, you haven't done any testing on him or anything. He might just be in a coma or something."

The vet rolled his eyes, shrugged, turned and left the room returning a few moments later with a beautiful black Labrador. As the bird's owner looked on in amazement, the dog stood on his hind legs, put his front paws on the examination table and sniffed the dead parrot from top to bottom. He then looked at the vet with sad eyes and shook his head. The vet led the dog out but returned a few moments later with a cat. The cat jumped up and also sniffed delicately at the ex-bird. The cat sat back, shook its head, meowed and ran out of the room.

The vet looked at the woman and said, "I'm sorry, but like I said, your parrot is most definitely, 100% certifiably dead."

He then turned to his computer terminal, hit a few keys and produced a bill which he handed to the woman. The parrot's owner, still in shock, took the bill. "\$150!" she cried. "\$150 just to tell me my bird is dead?!"

The vet shrugged. "If you'd taken my word for it, the bill would only have been \$20, but with the Lab Report and the CAT scan... what did you expect?"

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Woops!

Moon shot

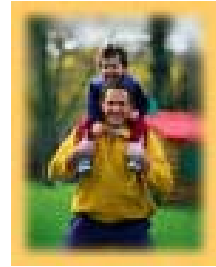


Flying at nearly 35,000 feet, a jet passes over the disk of a winter half moon above Boston on Jan. 3rd. The jet leaves contrails in its wake due to the temperature difference between the hot engine exhaust and the cold air.

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Shoulder Ride

My husband and I took our two-year-old daughter to the home-improvement store. Madison got tired of walking, so my husband let her ride on his shoulders. As he walked, Madison began pulling his hair. Although he asked her to stop several times, she kept on. Getting annoyed, he scolded, "Madison! Stop that!" "But, Daddy," she replied, "I'm just trying to get my gum back."



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DOCTOR GUILT

Doctor Dave had sex with one of his patients and felt guilty all day long. No matter how much he tried to forget about it, he couldn't. The guilt and sense of betrayal was overwhelming.

But every once in a while he'd hear an internal, reassuring voice that said: "Dave, don't worry about it. You aren't the first doctor to sleep with one of their patients and you won't be the last. And you're single. Just let it go."

But invariably the other voice would bring him back to reality, reminding him with a whisper.

"Dave, you're a vet!

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It's the Light

Deep in the back woods of Tennessee, a hillbilly's wife went into labor in the middle of the night, and the doctor was called out to assist in the delivery. Since there was no electricity, the doctor handed the father-to-be a lantern and said, "Here. You hold this high so I can see what I am doing!"

Soon, a baby boy was brought into the world. "Whoa there", said the doctor, "Don't be in such a rush to put that lantern down.

I think there's another one coming."

Sure enough, within minutes he had delivered a baby girl.

"Hold that lantern up, don't set it down there's another one!" said the doctor.

Within a few minutes he had delivered a third baby. "No, don't be in a hurry to put down that lantern, it seems there's yet another one coming!" cried the doctor.

The redneck scratched his head in bewilderment, and asked the doctor, "You reckon it might be the light that's attractin' 'em?"



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Red Square reflection



The Kremlin's Spassky Tower and passers-by are reflected in the wet cobblestones of Moscow's Red Square on Feb. 13th.

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Try this link, and see if you don't feel safer.

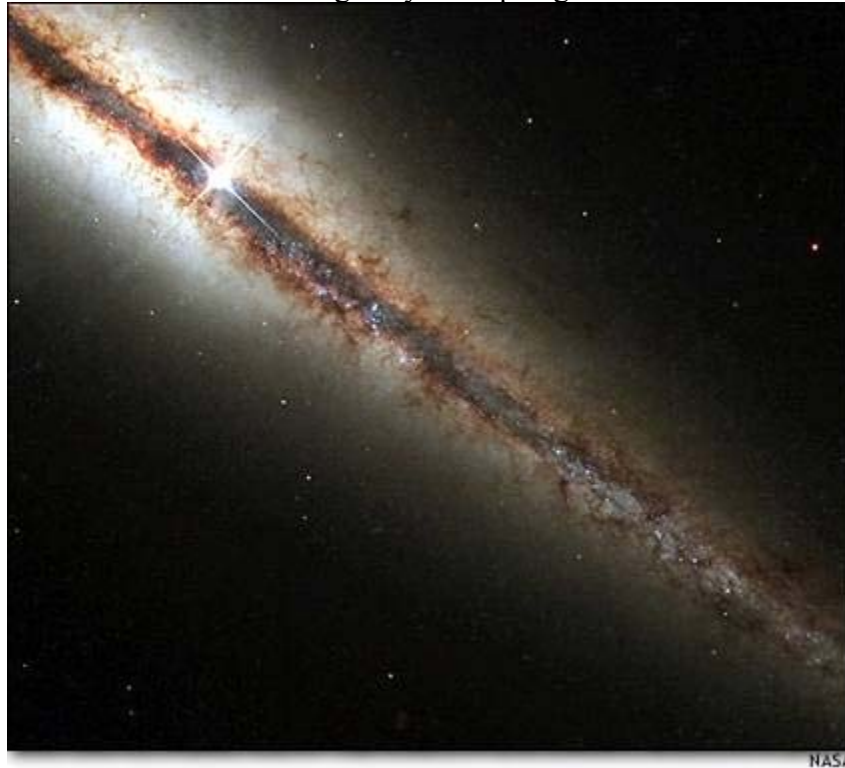
<http://www.w3geek.com/movies/pilots.htm>

You have to listen to it as well as watch.



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A galaxy's sharp edge



An image produced by the Hubble Space Telescope, released March 1, shows a perfect "edge-on" perspective of the galaxy NGC 4013, with huge clouds of dust and gas extending above the galaxy's main disk.

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Management Parables



Parable Number 1:

A crow was sitting on a tree, doing nothing all day. A small Rabbit saw the crow, and asked him, "Can I also sit like you and do nothing all day long? The crow answered: "Sure, why not." So, the rabbit sat on the ground below the crow, and rested. All of a sudden, a fox appeared, jumped on the rabbit and ate it.

Management Lesson:

To be sitting and doing nothing, you must be sitting very, very high up.

Parable Number 2:

A turkey was chatting with a bull. "I would love to be able to get to the top of that tree," sighed the turkey, "but I haven't got the energy. "Well, why don't you nibble on some of my droppings?" replied the bull. "They're packed with nutrients." The turkey pecked at a lump of dung and found that it actually gave him enough strength to reach the first branch of the tree. The next day, after eating some more dung, he reached the second branch. Finally after a fourth night, there he was proudly perched at the top of the tree. Soon he was spotted by a farmer, who shot the turkey out of the tree.

Management Lesson:

BS might get you to the top, but it won't keep you there.

Parable Number 3:

A little bird was flying south for the winter. It was so cold; the bird froze and fell to the ground in a large field. While it was lying there, a cow came by and dropped some dung on it. As the frozen bird lay there in the pile of cow dung, it began to realize how warm it was. The dung was actually thawing him out! He lay there all warm and happy, and soon began to sing for joy.

A passing cat heard the bird singing and came to investigate. Following the sound, the cat discovered the bird under the pile of cow dung, and promptly dug him out and ate him!

Management Lesson:

- (1) Not everyone who drops s...t on you is your enemy.
- (2) Not everyone who gets you out of s...t is your friend.
- (3) And when you're in deep s...t, keep your mouth shut!

Parable Number 4:

The boy rode on the donkey and the old man walked. As they went along, they passed some people who remarked "it was a shame the old man was walking and the boy was riding". The man and boy thought maybe the critics were right, so they changed positions.

Later, they passed some people that remarked, "What a shame, he makes that little boy walk." They decided they both would walk!

Soon they passed some more people who thought they were stupid to walk when they had a decent donkey to ride. So they both rode the donkey!

Now they passed some people that shamed them by saying "how awful to put such a load on a poor donkey".

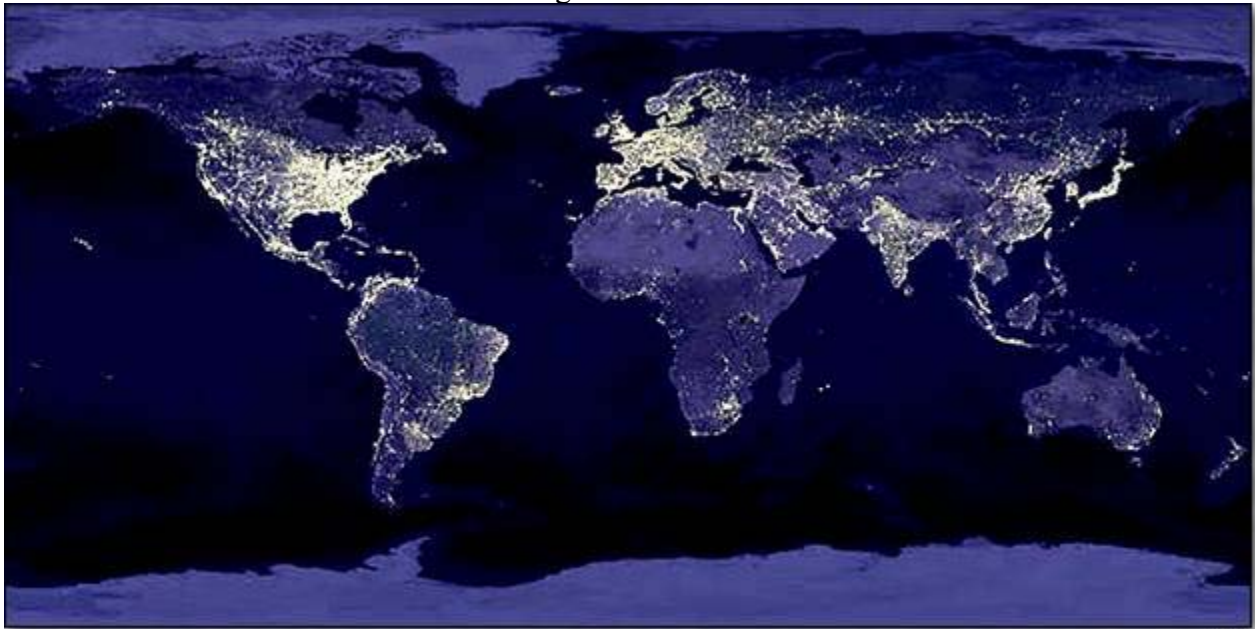
The boy and man said they were probably right so they decided to carry the donkey. As they crossed a bridge, they lost their grip on the animal and he fell into the river and drowned.

Management Lesson:

If you try to please everyone, you will eventually lose your ass.

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6. Light of the world



This composite image shows what Earth looks like at night. City lights highlight developed areas of the planet.

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Dining Out



A man is dining in a fancy restaurant and there is a gorgeous redhead sitting at the next table. He has been checking her out since he sat down, but lacks the nerve to talk with her.

Suddenly, she sneezes and her glass eye comes flying out of its socket towards the man.

He reflexively reaches out, grabs it out of the air, and hands it back.

"Oh my, I am so sorry," the woman says as she pops her eye back in place. "Let me buy your dinner to make it up to you," she says! They enjoy a wonderful dinner together, and afterwards they go to the theater followed by drinks. They talk, they laugh, she shares her deepest dreams and he shares his. She listens.

After paying for everything, she asks him if he would like to come to her place for a nightcap and stay for breakfast. They had a wonderful, wonderful time.

The next morning, she cooks a gourmet meal with all the trimmings. The guy is amazed!! Everything had been SO incredible!!!!

"You know," he said, "you are the perfect woman. Are you this nice to every guy you meet?"

"No," she replies....."

She says "You just happened to catch my eye."

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Mother and child



Vadim Ghirda / AP

An ethnic Albanian refugee from Selce, Macedonia, and her child look through the window of a bus as they arrive in Prizren in Kosovo on March 27, after fleeing the fighting in Macedonia two days earlier.

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What I've learned

Author unknown



I've learned-that you cannot make someone love you. All you can do is be someone who can be loved. The rest is up to them.

I've learned-that no matter how much I care, some people just don't care back.

I've learned-That it takes years to build up trust, and only seconds to destroy it.

I've learned-that it's not what you have in your life but who you have in your life that counts.

I've learned-that you can get by on charm for about fifteen minutes. After that, you'd better know something.

I've learned-that you shouldn't compare yourself to the best others can do.

I've learned-that you can do something in an instant that will give you heartache for life.

I've learned-that it's taking me a long time to become the person I want to be.

I've learned-that you should always leave loved ones with loving words. It may be the last time you see them.

I've learned-that you can keep going long after you can't.

I've learned-that we are responsible for what we do, no matter how we feel.

I've learned-that either you control your attitude or it controls you.

I've learned-that regardless of how hot and steamy a relationship is at first, the passion fades and there had better be something else to take its place.

I've learned-that heroes are the people who do what has to be done when it needs to be done, regardless of the consequences.

I've learned-that money is a lousy way of keeping score.

I've learned-that my best friend and I can do anything or nothing and have the best time.

I've learned-that sometimes the people you expect to kick you when you're down will be the ones to help you get back up.

I've learned-that sometimes when I'm angry I have the right to be angry, but that doesn't give me the right to be cruel.

I've learned-that true friendship continues to grow, even over the longest distance. Same goes for true love.

I've learned-that just because someone doesn't love you the way you want them to doesn't mean they don't love you with all they have.

I've learned-that maturity has more to do with what types of experiences you've had and what you've learned from them and less to do with how many birthdays you've celebrated.

I've learned-that you should never tell a child their dreams are unlikely or outlandish. Few things are more humiliating, and what a tragedy it would be if they believed it.

I've learned-that your family won't always be there for you. It may seem funny, but people you aren't related to can take care of you and love you and teach you to trust people again. Families aren't biological.

I've learned-that you should strive to be the kind of person your dog thinks you are.



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A useful lesson



David Gray / Reuters

A German Shepherd named Pepper sits with two endangered Bengal tiger cubs and a cougar cub, far right, at the home of veterinarian Rob Zammit outside Sydney, Australia.

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Work place jargon

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: That's very interesting.

TRANSLATION: I disagree.

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: "I don't disagree."

TRANSLATION: "I disagree."

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: I don't totally disagree with you.

TRANSLATION: You may be right, but I don't care.

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: You have to show some flexibility.

TRANSLATION: You have to do it whether you want to or not.

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: We have an opportunity.

TRANSLATION: You have a problem.

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: You obviously put a lot of work into this.

TRANSLATION: This is awful.

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: In a perfect world.

TRANSLATION: Just get it working and get it out the door.

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: Help me to understand.

TRANSLATION: I don't know what you're talking about, and I don't think you do either.

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: You just don't understand our business.

TRANSLATION: We don't understand our business.

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: You need to see the big picture.

TRANSLATION: My boss thinks it's a good idea.

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: My mind is made up. I am adamant on the subject. There is no room for discussion. But if you do want to discuss it further, my door is always open.

TRANSLATION: &%^\$ you.

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: I appreciate your contribution.

TRANSLATION: @#%* you!

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: We're going to follow a strict methodology here.

TRANSLATION: We're going to do it my way.

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: I didn't understand the e-mail you said you sent. Can you give me a quick summary?

TRANSLATION: I still can't figure out how to start the e-mail program.

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: Cost of ownership has become a significant issue in desktop computing.

TRANSLATION: We want all of the benefits and none of the costs.

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: We have to leverage our resources.

TRANSLATION: You're working weekends.

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: Individual contributor.

TRANSLATION: Employee who does real work.

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: Your project is on hold.

TRANSLATION: We've put a bullet in it.

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: Wrong answer.

TRANSLATION: You didn't tell me what I wanted to hear.

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: You needed to be more proactive.

TRANSLATION: You should have protected me from myself.

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: I'd like your buy-in on this.

TRANSLATION: I want someone else to blame when this thing bombs.

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: We want you to be the executive champion of this project.

TRANSLATION: I want to be able to blame you for my mistakes.

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: We need to syndicate this decision.

TRANSLATION: We need to spread the blame if it backfires.

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: We have to put on our marketing hats.

TRANSLATION: We have to put ethics aside.

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: It's not possible. It's impractical. It won't work.

TRANSLATION: I don't know how to do it.

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: It's a no-brainer.

TRANSLATION: It's a perfect decision for me to handle.

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: I'm glad you asked me that.

TRANSLATION: Public relations has written a carefully phrased answer.

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: I see you involved your peers in developing your proposal.

TRANSLATION: One person couldn't possibly come up with something this stupid.

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: There are larger issues at stake.

TRANSLATION: I've made up my mind so don't bother me with the facts.

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: I'll never lie to you.

TRANSLATION: The truth will change frequently.

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: Our business is going through a paradigm shift.

TRANSLATION: We have no idea what we've been doing, but in the future we shall do something completely different.

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: Value-added.

TRANSLATION: Expensive.

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: Human Resources.

TRANSLATION: A bulk commodity, like lentils or cinder blocks.

MANAGEMENT SPEAK: The upcoming reductions will benefit the vast majority of employees.

TRANSLATION: The upcoming reductions will benefit me.

Employer's Lingo:

"COMPETITIVE SALARY" --We remain competitive by paying less than our competitors.

"JOIN OUR FAST-PACED TEAM" --We have no time to train you.

"CASUAL WORK ATMOSPHERE"

We don't pay enough to expect that you'll dress up; well, a couple of the real daring guys wear earrings.

"MUST BE DEADLINE ORIENTED" --You'll be six months behind schedule on your first day.

"SOME OVERTIME REQUIRED" --Some time each night and some time each weekend.

"DUTIES WILL VARY" --Anyone in the office can boss you around.

"MUST HAVE AN EYE FOR DETAIL" --We have no quality control.

"CAREER-MINDED" --Female Applicants must be childless (and remain that way).

"APPLY IN PERSON" --If you're old, fat or ugly you'll be told the position has been filled.

"NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE" --We've filled the job; our call for resumes is just a legal formality.

"SEEKING CANDIDATES WITH A WIDE VARIETY OF EXPERIENCE" --You'll need it to replace three people who just left.

"PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS A MUST" --

You're walking into a company in perpetual chaos.

"REQUIRES TEAM LEADERSHIP SKILLS" --You'll have the responsibilities of a manager, without the pay or any respect.

"GOOD COMMUNICATION SKILLS" --Management communicates, you listen, figure out what they want and do it.

Employee's Lingo:

"I'M EXTREMELY ADEPT AT ALL MANNER OF OFFICE ORGANIZATION:" I've used Microsoft Office.

"I'M HONEST, HARD-WORKING AND DEPENDABLE" I pilfer office supplies.

"MY PERTINENT WORK EXPERIENCE INCLUDES" I hope you don't ask me about all the "McJobs" I've had.

"I TAKE PRIDE IN MY WORK" I blame others for my mistakes.

"I'M PERSONABLE" I give lots of unsolicited personal advice to co-workers.

"I'M EXTREMELY PROFESSIONAL" I carry a Day-Timer.

"I AM ADAPTABLE" I've changed jobs a lot.

"I AM ON THE GO" I'm never at my desk.

"I'M HIGHLY MOTIVATED TO SUCCEED" I will cut corners and ignore established procedures, get the company into a law suit, then move on.

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Great white whale



A beluga whale swims in a tank at the Vancouver Aquarium.

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Signs of the times



Sign in a Laundromat: AUTOMATIC WASHING MACHINES: PLEASE REMOVE ALL YOUR CLOTHES WHEN THE LIGHT GOES OUT

In an office: WOULD THE PERSON WHO TOOK THE STEP LADDER YESTERDAY PLEASE BRING IT BACK OR FURTHER STEPS WILL BE TAKEN

Outside a farm: HORSE MANURE \$2.00 PER PRE-PACKED BAG -- \$1.00 DO-IT-YOURSELF

In an office: AFTER COFFEE BREAK STAFF SHOULD EMPTY THE POT AND STAND UPSIDE DOWN ON THE DRAINING BOARD

On a church door: THIS IS THE GATE OF HEAVEN. ENTER YE ALL BY THIS DOOR. THIS DOOR IS KEPT LOCKED BECAUSE OF THE DRAFT. (PLEASE USE SIDE DOOR.)

English sign in a German cafe: MOTHERS, PLEASE WASH YOUR HANS BEFORE EATING

Outside a secondhand shop: WE EXCHANGE ANYTHING - BICYCLES, WASHING MACHINES ETC. WHY NOT BRING YOUR WIFE ALONG AND GET A WONDERFUL BARGAIN?

Notice in health food shop window: CLOSED DUE TO ILLNESS

Spotted in a safari park: ELEPHANTS PLEASE STAY IN YOUR CAR

Seen during a conference: FOR ANYONE WHO HAS CHILDREN AND DOESN'T KNOW IT, THERE IS A DAY CARE ON THE FIRST FLOOR

Message on a leaflet: IF YOU CANNOT READ, THIS LEAFLET WILL TELL YOU HOW TO GET LESSONS

Sign on a repair shop door: WE CAN REPAIR ANYTHING. (PLEASE KNOCK HARD ON THE DOOR - THE BELL DOESN'T WORK)

Spotted in a toilet in a London office block: TOILET OUT OF ORDER. PLEASE USE FLOOR BELOW



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Puppy love



Crystal, a year-old black Labrador-Dalmatian mix, peers through a heart-shaped hole in a fence.

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Talking Dog

A man sees a sign in front of a house: "Talking Dog for Sale." He rings the bell and the owner tells him the dog is in the backyard. The guy goes into the backyard and sees a black mutt just sitting there.

You talk?" he asks.

"Sure do," the dog replies.

"So, what's your story?"

The dog looks up and says, "Well, I discovered my gift of talking pretty young and I wanted to help the government, so I told MI5 about my gift, and in no time they had me jetting from country to country, sitting in rooms with spies and world leaders, because no one figured a dog would be eavesdropping. I was one of their most valuable spies eight years running.

The jetting around really tired me out, and I knew I wasn't getting any younger and I wanted to settle down. So I signed up for a job at the airport to do some undercover security work, mostly wandering

near suspicious characters and listening in. I uncovered some incredible dealings there and was awarded a batch of medals. Had a wife, a mess of puppies, and now I'm just retired."

The guy is amazed. He goes back in and asks the owner what he wants for the dog.

The owner says, "Ten bucks." The guy says, "This dog is amazing. Why on earth are you selling him so cheap?"

"Cause he's a liar. He's never done any of that stuff."

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The gathering storm



Rudy Smith / The World Herald

Dark clouds roll over Blair, Neb., on May 9th, bringing thunder and flashes of lightning.

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The Amazing Human Brain

Believe it or not the reading below is easier than you think!

Subject: Raeding 101

Aoccdrnig to rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it deosn't mtttaer in what oredr the ltteers in a wrod are, the olny iprmoetnt tihng is taht the frist and lsat ltteer be in the rghit pclae. The rset can be a tatol mses and you can sitll raed it wouthit a porbelm. Tihs is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the wrod as a wlohe.

Amzanig huh?

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The little duckling who could



Mallard ducklings wait their turn May 14 as a sibling struggles to make it up a curb in South Bend, Ind. The mother, who had already cleared the obstacle, flirted with traffic for 20 minutes before leading her offspring safely across the busy road.

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Aoccdrnig to a rscheearch at an Elingsh uinervtisy, it deosn't mtttaer in waht oredr the ltteers in a wrod are, the olny iprmoetnt tihng is taht the frist and the lsat ltteer is at the rghit pclae. The rset can be a total mses and you can sitll raed it wouthit porbelm. Tihs is bcuseae we do not raed ervey lteter by it slef but the wrod as a wlohe.

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Editor's note: These last two stories broke our spell checker.

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Mideast flare-up



A Palestinian youth uses a slingshot to fire stones at Israeli soldiers from behind a barricade of burning tires May 23rd

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Medical help

Two hunters are out in the woods when one of them collapses. He doesn't seem to be breathing and his eyes are glazed. The other guy takes out his phone and calls the emergency services.

He gasps: "My friend is dead! What can I do?" The operator says: "Calm down, I can help. First, let's make sure he's dead." There is a silence, then a gunshot is heard. Back on the phone, the guy says: "OK, now what?"



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Rainbow times two

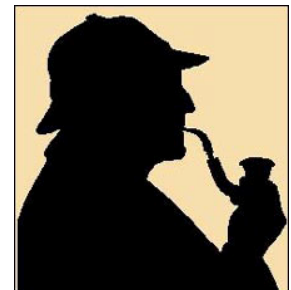


Robert J. Moorhead / Chillicothe Gazette

An afternoon storm brought a double rainbow over downtown Chillicothe, Ohio, on May 27.

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Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson are going camping. They pitch their tent under the stars and go to sleep. Sometime in the middle of the night Holmes wakes Watson up. "Watson! Look up at the stars, and tell me what you deduce." Watson says, "I see millions of stars and even if a few of those have planets, it's quite likely there are some planets like Earth, and if there are a few planets like Earth out there, there might also be life." Holmes replied: "Watson, you idiot, somebody stole our tent!"



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Fury from above



Tony Gutierrez / AP

Lightning ripples over the Bass Performance Hall in Fort Worth, Texas, on June 14th.

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A man goes to the doctor and says: "Doctor, there's a piece of lettuce sticking out of my bottom." The doctor asks him to drop his trousers and examines him. The man asks, "Is it serious, doctor?" and the doctor replies, "I'm sorry to tell you but this is just the tip of the iceberg."



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Grand old night



Mike De Sisti / The Post-Crescent

Tanner Mann, 8, of Hortonville, Wis., gets a good seat on top of his mother's car July 4 for the fireworks show at Riverside Park in New London.

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"You're a high-priced lawyer! If I give you \$500, will you answer two questions for me?" "Absolutely! What's the second question?"



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Un-bear-able heat



Rose Palmisano / The Albuquerque Journal

Koluk the polar bear goes headfirst into the pool at the Albuquerque Rio Grande Zoo in Albuquerque, N.M., on July 15th

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Texan: "Where are you from?"

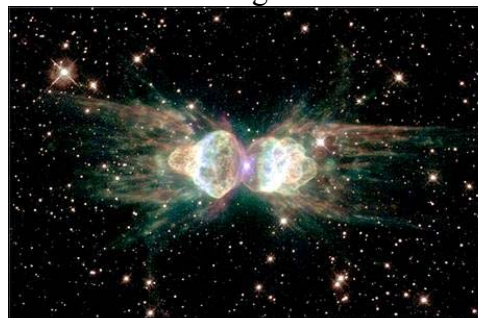
Harvard graduate: "I come from a place where we do not end our sentences with prepositions."

Texan: "OK, where are you from, Jackass?"



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Stellar light show



NASA / ESA / The Hubble Heritage Team

From ground-based telescopes, the "ant nebula" resembles the head and thorax of a garden ant.

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A man walks into the psychiatrist's office wearing nothing but a pair of underwear fashioned out of Saran Wrap. The Psychiatrist takes one look at him and says, "I can clearly see your nuts".



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Why Athletes shouldn't have real jobs (And these are the roll models our kids look up to!)



1. Chicago Cubs outfielder Andre Dawson on being a role model: "I wan' all dem kids to do what I do, to look up to me. I wan' all the kids to copulate me."
2. New Orleans Saint RB George Rogers when asked about the upcoming season: "I want to rush for 1,000 or 1,500 yards, whichever comes first."
3. And, upon hearing Joe Jacobi of the 'Skins say: "I'd run over my own mother to win the Super Bowl," Matt Millen of the Raiders said: "To win, I'd run over Joe's Mom, too."
4. Torrin Polk, University of Houston receiver, on his coach, John Jenkins: "He treats us like men. He lets us wear earrings."
5. Football commentator and former player Joe Theismann, 1996: "Nobody in football should be called a genius. A genius is a guy like Norman Einstein."
6. Senior basketball player at the University of Pittsburgh: "I'm going to graduate on time, no matter how long it takes." (now that is beautiful)
7. Bill Peterson, a Florida State football coach: "You guys line up alphabetically by height." And, "You guys pair up in groups of three, and then line up in a circle."
8. Boxing promoter Dan Duva on Mike Tyson going to prison: "Why would anyone expect him to come out smarter? He went to prison for three years, not Princeton."
9. Stu Grimson, Chicago Blackhawks left wing, explaining why he keeps a color photo of himself above his locker: "That's so when I forget how to spell my name, I can still find my clothes."
10. Lou Duva, veteran boxing trainer, on the Spartan training regime of heavyweight Andrew Golota: "He's a guy who gets up at six o'clock in the morning regardless of what time it is."
11. Chuck Nevitt, North Carolina State basketball player, explaining to Coach Jim Valvano why he appeared nervous at practice: "My sister's expecting a baby, and I don't know if I'm going to be an uncle or an aunt." (I wonder if his IQ ever hit room temperature in January)

12. Frank Layden, Utah Jazz president, on a former player: "I told him, 'Son, what is it with you? Is it ignorance or apathy?' He said, 'Coach, I don't know and I don't care.'"

13. Shelby Metcalf, basketball coach at Texas A&M, recounting what he told a player who received four F's and one D: "Son, looks to me like you're spending too much time on one subject."

14. Amarillo High School and Oiler coach Bum Phillips when asked by Bob Costas why he takes his wife on all the road trips, Phillips responded: "Because she is too damn ugly to kiss good-bye."

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HEADACHE!

A woman who had the worst chronic headache goes to a famous "new age" holistic doctor, as a last resort. "Doctor, I have tried everything, but my headache just won't go away."

The doctor replied, "You have come to the right place. This is what I want you to do: go home, stare at yourself in the mirror, point your index fingers at your temples, and repeat this mantra: "I really don't have a headache...I really don't have a headache". Do it as long as it takes, the headache is just going to vanish."



As she leaves the doctor's office, skeptical but curious at the same time, she tries the maneuver in front of the mirror in the elevator. Fingers pointed at her temples, she starts repeating "I really don't have a headache, I really don't have a headache..."

She has barely said it four times, when she realizes her headache is gone. Shocked and elated, she runs back up to the doctor. "Doctor, you are a genius! Can I please send you my husband? He's been having problems in a certain department... how can I put it? "

"When was the last time you two had sex?" -- "About eight years ago." -- "Send him over."

A few days later, she is waiting with bated breath for her husband to come home from the doctor. He arrives, asks her to wait, and goes straight to the bathroom. When he comes out, he throws her on the couch and starts making wild passionate love to her. When he's finished, he goes right back to the bathroom.

A few minutes later he comes out, rouses her from her bliss and starts at it again, like an insatiable young man. After another hour of great sex he goes and locks himself in the bathroom again.

At this point the wife has become unbearably curious. She tiptoes to the bathroom door, looks through the keyhole, and sees her husband, staring at himself in the mirror, fingers pointed at his temples, repeating: "That woman is not my wife, that woman is not my wife....."

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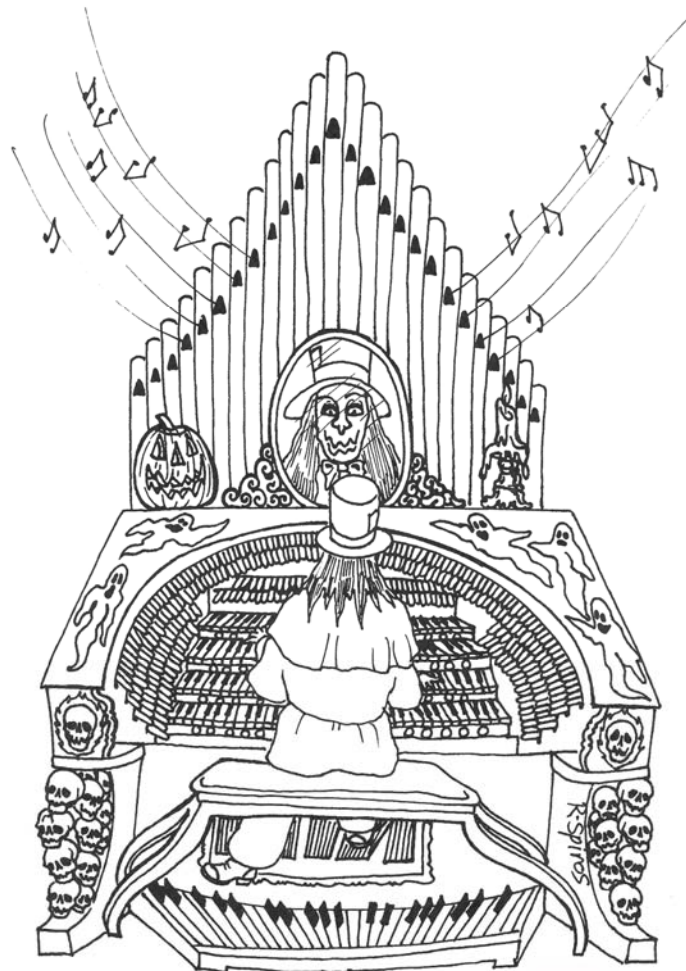
Sky High Airlines

Check this website out. At first, we thought it was spam, but it is a kick in the rear.

<http://www.skyhighairlines.com/bookflight.asp>

Their motto is: The relentless pursuit of adequacy.

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Happy Halloween from all of us at the Galactic Headquarters of
The Order of the Iron Test Pattern

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Why don't the Italians like the Jehovah's Witnesses? Italians don't like ANY witnesses.....



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And finally, Test your computer's exposure to online security threats and learn how to make your computer more secure.

<http://security.symantec.com/sscv6/default.asp?langid=ie&venid=sym>

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Well that's about it for this time. Don't forget to check out the industry news in the Tech-Notes: <http://www.tech-notes.tv/> As we said earlier on, stay tuned – things can only get better! – But only with your help. Tell a friend or associate about us. Until next time --FADE TO BLACK! ☺ .

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