



"I don't like people who's job it is isn't to be funny, to tell me what is and isn't funny."  
 ~ Sarah Silverman on Bill Maher's show

THROUGHOUT THE 'PLANET,' CLICKING **BOLD, DARK RED TYPE** OPENS A RELATED INTERNET LINK.

**THE WORD**

(According to Abbott and Costello)

**ABBOTT:** (picks up phone) Super Duper computer store. Can I help you?

**COSTELLO:** Thanks. I'm setting up an office in my den and I'm thinking about buying a computer.

Mac? – No, the name's Lou.

Your computer... – I don't own a computer. I want to buy one.

Mac? – No, I told you, my name's Lou.

What about Windows? – Windows? Why? Will it get stuffy in here?

Do you want a computer with Windows? – Maybe. What will I see when I look at the windows?

Wallpaper. – What? Never mind the windows. I need a computer and software.

You want software for Windows? – No, on the computer! I need something I can use to write proposals, track expenses and

run my business. What do you have?

Office... – Yeah, for my office. Can you recommend anything?

I just did. . . – You just did what?

Recommend something. – You recommended something?

Yes. – For my office?

Yes. – OK, what did you recommend for my office?

Office. – Yes, "for my office!"

I recommend Office with Windows. – But I already have an office with windows! OK, let's just say I'm sitting at my computer and I want to type a proposal. What do I need?

Word... – What word?

Word in Office... – The only word in office is "office."

I mean, Word in Office for Windows. – Which "word" in office for windows?

The Word you get when you click the blue 'W.' – I'm going to click your Blue 'W' if you don't gimme some straight answers! What about financial bookkeeping? You have anything I can track my money with?

Money... – That's right. What do you have?

Money.... – I need "money" to track my money?

Right. It comes bundled with your computer. – What's bundled with my computer?

Money... – "Money" comes with my computer?

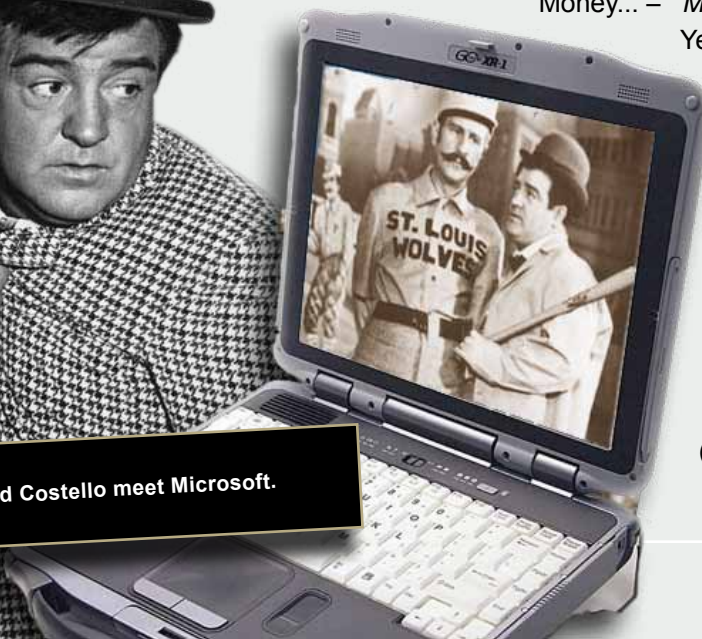
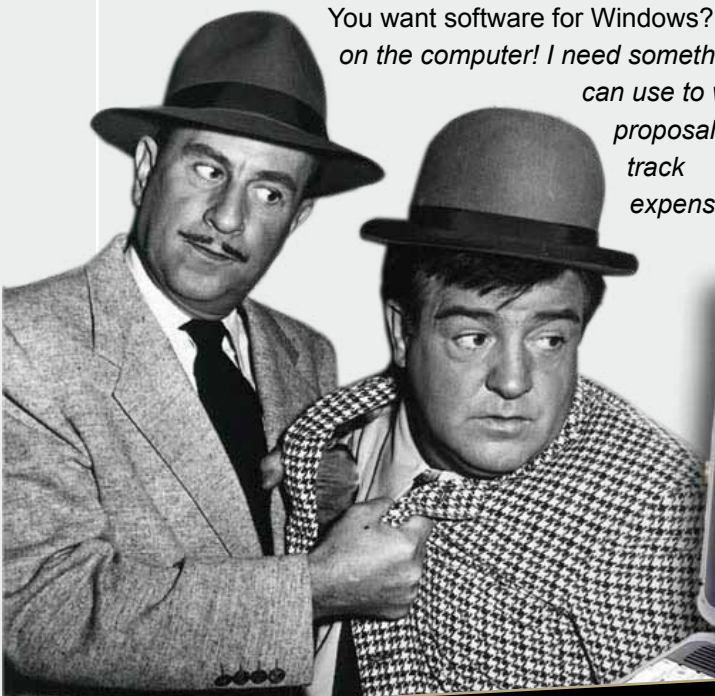
Yes, and at no extra charge. – I get a bundle of money with my computer? How much?

One copy. – Isn't it illegal to copy money?

No, Microsoft gave us a license to copy Money. – They can give you a license to copy money?!

Why not? THEY OWN IT!

(Costello hangs up...)



WHO'S ON LINE? Abbott and Costello meet Microsoft.

"Men show their characters in nothing more clearly than in what they think laughable."

~ Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

## WHO'S HEAR?

"A concerned husband went to a doctor to talk about his wife. He says to the doctor, "Doctor, I think my wife is deaf, because I always have to repeat things."

"Well," the doctor replied, "go home tonight, stand about 15 feet from her and say something. If she doesn't reply, move about five feet closer and say it again. Keep doing this so we'll be able to gauge the severity of her deafness."

Sure enough, the husband goes home and does exactly as instructed. He starts off about 15 feet from his wife in the kitchen as she is chopping some vegetables and says, "Honey, what's for dinner?" He hears no response, moves about five feet closer, and asks again. No reply. He moves five feet closer. Still no reply.

He gets fed up and moves right behind her, about an inch away, and asks again, at top volume, "Honey, what's for dinner?"

She replies "For the fourth time, pork chops!"

"Vision Loss is Reported in Users of Viagra"

~ New York Times, May 28, 2005

## LOVE IS BLIND

Though the sex is now back in his life,

The effects are not lacking in strife.

His libido's been stirred,

But his vision is blurred.

It's his ex in the sack, not his wife.

*Poem by Montana Miller,*

*The Lozenge Vol. 6, No. 9*

"Choice is a powerful thing. If you still have it."

~ L.A. street-person

## IT'S LIKE . . .

(Really short stories based on really mixed metaphors from really mixed-up Americans.)

"He was as tall as a six-foot-three-inch tree [and] had a mind like a steel trap, only one that had been left out so long, it had rusted shut. The revelation that his marriage of 30 years had disintegrated because of his wife's infidelity came as a rude shock, like a surcharge at a formerly surcharge-free ATM."

"He spoke with the wisdom that can only come from experience, like a guy who went blind because he looked at a solar eclipse without one of those boxes with a pinhole in it and now goes around the country speaking at high schools about the dangers of looking at a solar eclipse without one of those boxes with a pinhole in it."

"The plan was simple, like my brother-in-law Phil. But unlike Phil, this plan just might work. John and Mary had never met. They were like two hummingbirds that had also never met. They lived in a typical suburban neighborhood with picket fences that resembled Nancy Kerrigan's teeth."

"If we do not change our direction, we are likely to end up where we are headed." ~ Sam Stoddard

## IN THE NOOSE

According to **THIS WEEK** magazine, a new prison in Halden, Norway, in a lovely forest setting, has running trails, a guesthouse for conjugal visits and a recording studio...for conjugal visits. The "guests" (including murderers, rapists, drug dealers and politicians) reside in dorm-like rooms with flat-screen TVs and mini-fridges, while unarmed guards play sports and share meals with them.

Warden Are Hiodal explains, "We want to give them confidence through education and work, and have them leave as better people." Or better, rapists, dealers, murderers and...politicians?

Also, Red States should be blushing! According to a new book by family law professors Naomi Cahn and June Carbone, states with the lowest divorce and teenage pregnancy rates are "secular blue" states. Why?

Well, in Palin country, folks are pressured to practice abstinence until matrimony, and so to avoid the stigma of bearing a bastard, many get married in their early 20s, which prevents them from pursuing a college education

and makes them more susceptible to divorce, holding low-paying jobs and succumbing to crime.

"Blue state values – don't get married until you're equipped for responsibility – breed more stable, lasting families," concludes the article by Jonathan Rauch from the National Journal.

### GAY BOMB

*"Sometimes I think the surest sign that intelligent life exists elsewhere in the universe is that none of it has tried to contact us."*

~ Calvin & Hobbs' **Bill Watterson**

### ANAGRAMATICALLY SPEAKING

Barack Hussein Obama = Has Samurai Backbone, Macaronie Babushka, Human Bareback Oasis, Mania Babushka Score, Samba Shaken Caribou, Haiku Nabob Massacre, Ambush Ocarinas Bake, Saucier Shaman Kabob, Marihuana Sock Babes, Bohemians Back Auras and Cronie MacBush Backa...

COME PLAY! AAAA, BB, SS, R, C, K, E, I, M, N

*"I tried to come up with a pun about famous German philosophers, but I Kant."*

~ **Phil's Phunny Phacts**

### COWBOY TIME

A cowboy walks into a bar and takes a seat next to a very attractive woman. He gives her a quick glance then casually looks at his watch for a moment. The woman notices this and asks, "Is your date running late?"

"No," he replies, "I just got this state-of-the-art watch, and I was just testing it..." The intrigued woman says, "a state-of-the-art watch? What's so special about it?"

The cowboy explains, "It uses alpha waves to talk to me telepathically." The lady says, "What's it telling you now?"

"Well, it says you're not wearing any panties."

The woman giggles and replies "Well it must be broken because I am wearing panties!"

The cowboy smiles, taps his watch and says, "Damn thing's an hour fast."

*"But I, being poor, have only my dreams; I have spread my dreams under your feet; Tread softly because you tread on my dreams."~ William Butler Yeats*

### CHAPTER TWO

"Long separated by cruel fate, the star-crossed lovers raced across the grassy field toward each other like two freight trains, one having left Cleveland at 6:36 p.m. traveling at 55 mph, the other from Topeka at 4:19 p.m. at a speed of 35 mph. The hailstones leaped from the pavement, just like maggots when you fry them in hot grease."

"The ballerina rose gracefully en Pointe and extended one slender leg behind her, like a dog at a fire hydrant. The young fighter had a hungry look, the kind you get from not eating for a while. He was as lame as a duck. Not the metaphorical lame duck, either, but a real duck that was actually lame, maybe from stepping on a land mine or something. "

"Shots rang out, as shots are want to do! It was an American tradition, like fathers chasing kids around with power tools. It hurt the way your tongue hurts after you accidentally staple it to the wall."

"From the attic came an unearthly howl. The whole scene had an eerie, surreal quality, like when you're on vacation in another city and Jeopardy comes on at 7:00 p.m. instead

of 7:30. McBride fell 12 stories, hitting the pavement like a Hefty bag filled with vegetable soup..."

*A great pun is its own reword ~ Phil's Punny Phacts*

### WOOF

According to **THE WEEK**, Sandra Bullock's marriage imploded in part because "she sleeps with nine dogs." Her soon-to-be-ex hubby, Jesse James, became an outlaw instead of an inlaw because, according to his pet-less lover Michelle "Bombshell" McGee, it ruined his sex life, the dirty dog...



■ **CONTINUED**

"The international pole dancing association is trying to make pole dancing an Olympic sport." ~ **Eddie Deezen**

"You've got to go out on a limb sometimes, because that's where the fruit is." ~ **Will Rogers**

### AND THE WINNER IS...

A man is out shopping and discovers a new brand of condoms – Olympic condoms. Clearly impressed, he buys a pack. Upon getting home, the man informs his wife of his new purchase. "Olympic condoms?" she asks. "What makes them so special?"

"There are three colors," he replies. "Gold, Silver and Bronze."

"What color are you going to wear tonight?" she asks cheekily.

"Gold, of course," says the man proudly. The wife responds, "Really, why don't you wear Silver?"

"Why silver?" asks the man.

"Well, it would be nice if you came second for a change."

New investigation shows that 21,819  
Manhattan cabbies overcharged passengers  
a total of 286,000 times.  
~ **Phil's Not-so-Phunny Phacts**

### GOOD GOD!

"There is no position on which people are so immovable as their religious beliefs. There is no more powerful ally one can claim in a debate than Jesus Christ, or God, or Allah, or whatever one calls this Supreme Being. But like any powerful weapon, the use of God's name on one's behalf should be used sparingly.

"The religious factions that are growing throughout our land are not using their religious clout with wisdom. They are trying to force government leaders into following their position 100 percent. If you disagree with these religious groups on a particular moral issue, they complain, they threaten you with a loss of money or votes or both. I'm frankly sick and tired of the political preachers across this country telling me as a citizen that if I want to be a moral person, I must believe in 'A,' 'B,' 'C,' and 'D.'

"Just who do they think they are? And from where do they presume to claim the right to dictate their moral beliefs to me?" (Remarks by Barry Goldwater)

### WHERE AM US ANYWAY?

Melinda is back east right now, visiting friends and relatives, while I, and cats, hold down the fort as I prepare for next month's **FIRESIGN TOUR** and the LAGQ Quixote show in Austin, Texas on June 23. Meanwhile, I've kept busy adding voices to interactive games and commercials, rehearsing with Antaeus and appearing in more Golden Age of Pulp Fiction stories in Hollywood (below).

And for those of you who missed **Norman Corwin's** 100th Birthday Bash at the Writers Guild theatre, I will be appear-

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*About the Story*

Ignoring police threats, Bill Millian always gets to the car crash to claim the scrap before any other wrecker by listening to his police radio. One night, Bill again beats the police, only to be accosted by a pair of crooks who force him to drive them out of town. Now it's Bill who needs the men in blue, as his harrowing adventure leads him to the Grease Spot.

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# PLANET CLICK

## GO SEES

TINYTIM

GINGER

MR. W

JOAD

AL

HUMMERS

DESALLES

DOGOO

PAUL

SLOPE

RED

CANNON

SATCHMO

BRONTES

BLACK/BECK

TRAILERHOMES

STEVE

HAIL

SEXYCPR

SPACED

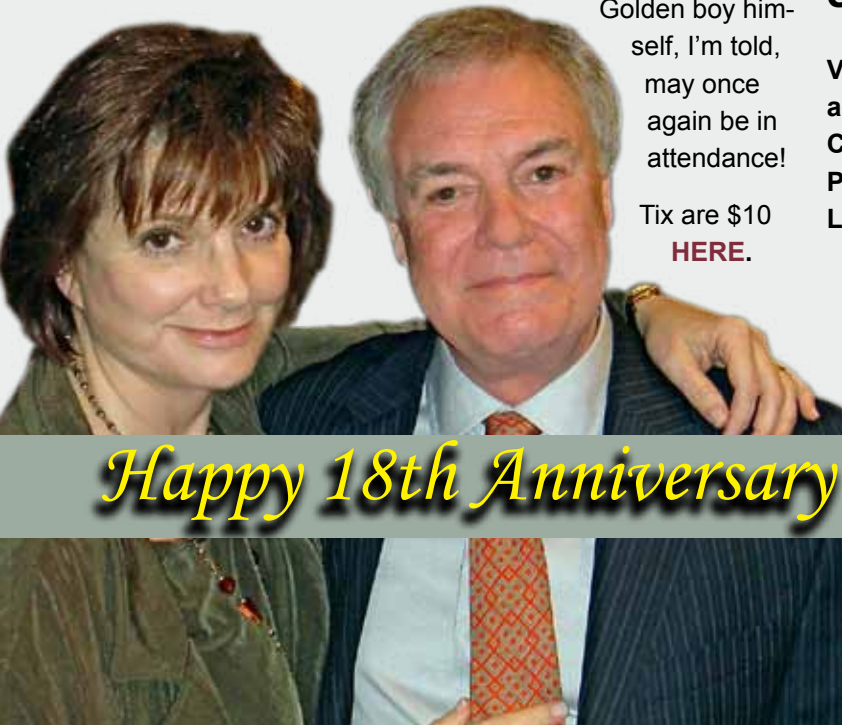
LENO

CLICK THE WORD TO  
GO TO THE SITE

ing again with **Peggy Webber's** California Artists Radio Theatre in "Mary and the Fairy," starring **JoAnne Worley** and **Marvin Kaplan**, and "Murder in Studio One" with **Samantha Egger** and the usual suspects, on Saturday, May 29 at 8 p.m. at the Beverly Garland Little Theatre on Vineland in North Hollywood

– and the silver-haired Golden boy himself, I'm told, may once again be in attendance!

Tix are \$10  
**HERE.**



## GIMMEES

**Victor Kopcewich, Glen Banks, Michael C. Gwynne and son Jon Gwynne, Peter Johnson, Rich Carlson, Charles Moed, Garry Margolis, George Riddle, Patti Paul, Kenneth Wilhite, Jr., Ed Ryba, Nick Oliva, Richard Laible, Ted Bonnitt, and THE WEEK magazine.**

"You can get an awful lot done if you don't care who gets the credit." ~ **George C. Marshall**

*Happy 18th Anniversary to Melinda and Me!*

"Ignorance, allied with power, is the most ferocious enemy justice can have." ~ **James Baldwin**

**"If you don't like your ugly mug, don't blame the mirror." ~ Old Russian proverb**

**FIRESIGN CDs:** <http://www.laugh.com>

**FUNNY TIMES:** <http://www.funnytimes.com>

**BEARWHIZ BEER** <http://www.eagletshirts.com>

**FST:** <http://www.FiresignTheatre.com>