



As a retired professor and former department chair at a state university, I was particularly interested in *The American Enterprise's* issue on higher education (September).

None of the articles, however, mentioned the dumbing down of college curricula and grade inflation that began in the 1960s. We haven't been able to accept since that time that college is not for everyone.

In reality, only one in four American jobs requires a bachelor's degree or more. We have many more institutions of "higher learning" than we need. Federal funding has been a gravy train for diploma mills that will admit anyone with a pulse. Faculties at many colleges are pressured not to flunk anyone in order to maintain cash flow.

As a result, college diplomas from all but the most elite institutions have become less valuable. The situation needs to change.

James R. Pullen  
St. Louis, Missouri

James Forman's "Great Expectations" (BIRD'S EYE, September) is an elitist's idea of what life should be like if it rained college degrees. Some folks are just not college material.

Bill Lynch  
Miller Place, New York

I was interested to read James Glassman's piece advocating an end to taxes on shareholders' dividends (FORWARD OBSERVER, September). I agree that double taxation of dividends should be

eliminated but I believe it would be better to eliminate it by allowing corporations to pay dividends out of pre-tax earnings. This way, individual stockholders who reap benefits from dividend income would still pay taxes on it, while the corporations would have a greater incentive to pay dividends.

Furthermore, this would avoid making individual tax returns even harder to complete, unlike Glassman's proposal. Individuals should make decisions on the basis of the expected returns on investment; not on what types of income the government thinks are "good" or "bad."

Marshall St. Clair  
West Hartford, Connecticut

I am troubled by the increase in anti-Semitism in America, and I am appreciative of your coverage of this subject ("Left Wing Anti-Semitism on Campus," September). You might want to look at anti-Semitism from the Right as well.

David Werber  
New York, New York

Thank you for citing Ameritrade in "Who's Afraid of Investing?" (BIRD'S EYE, July/August).

I would like to add that individual investors have a large role in making the American financial markets as strong and resilient as they are. To satisfy these investors, public companies will need to ensure a high degree of transparency, adequate communication, and the highest ethical standards of corporate governance.

This will rebuild investor confidence and produce a stronger market than before. Our experience has shown that self-directed investors find opportunities regardless of conditions.

Joe Moglia  
CEO, Ameritrade Holding Corporation

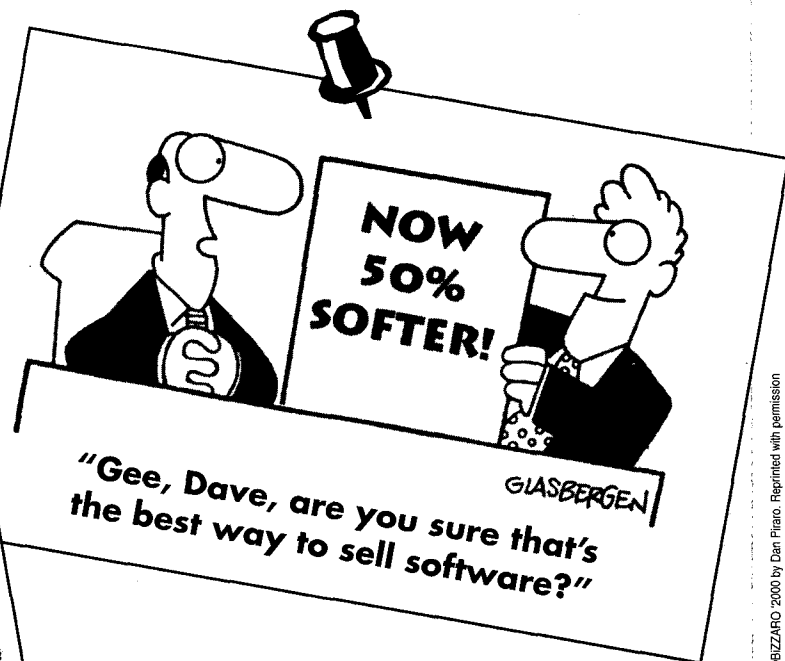
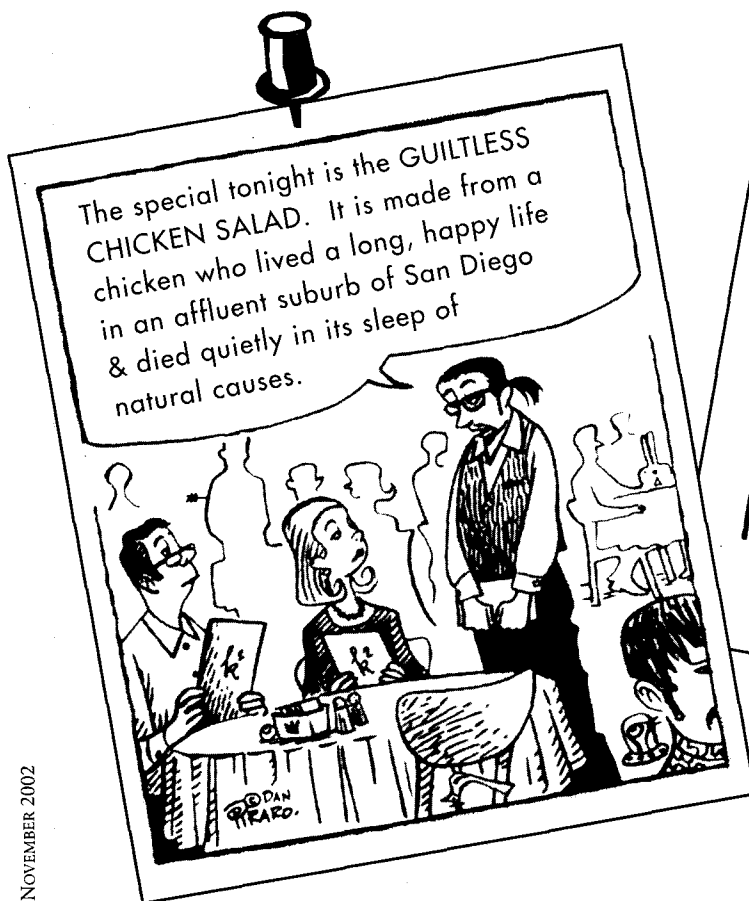
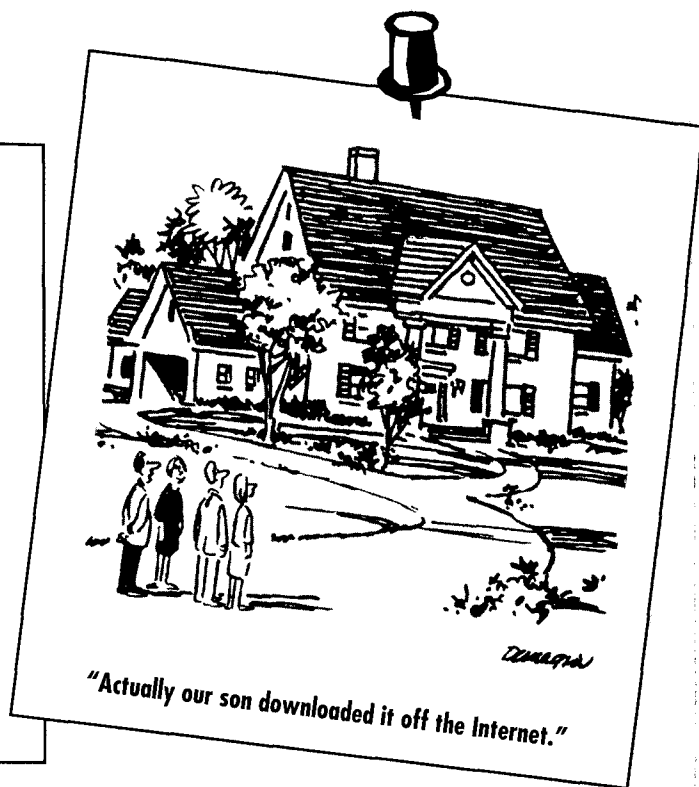
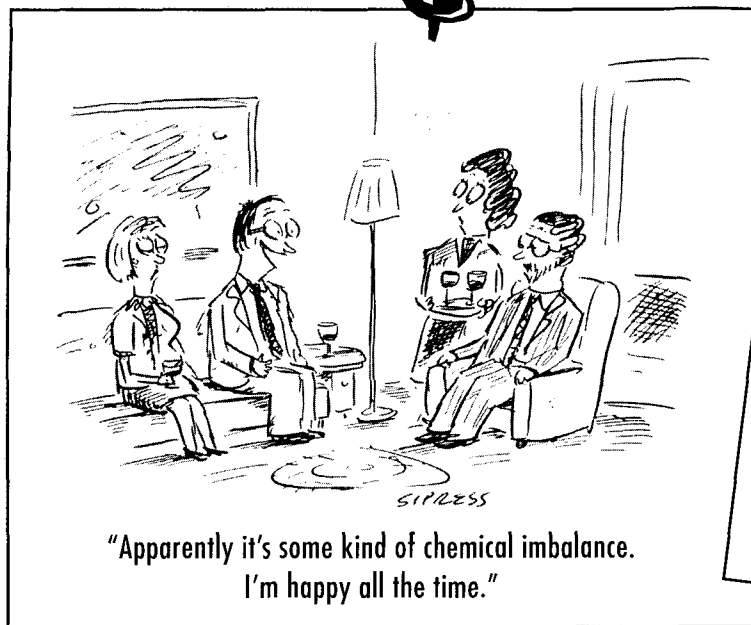
I was disappointed to read "Killing Buffalo?" by Matthew Carolan (SCAN, July/August). It offered the usual stereotypes about the gaming industry.

The commercial casino industry is primarily made up of publicly traded companies that answer to many state regulators, the Securities and Exchange Commission, and their own shareholders. While the American Gaming Association does not take a position on gambling expansion or on Indian gaming issues, we can agree with Mr. Carolan on one point: It should be up to the citizens of New York and other states to decide whether or not they want to have a casino.

Frank J. Fahrenkopf, Jr.  
President, American Gaming Association

Don Feder's "Wimps, Whiners, and Weenies: Men in Movies Today," (July/August) lists Mel Gibson as an example of "imported on-screen testosterone." Gibson was born in New York and didn't move to Australia until he was 12. So he is an American native, not really an Australian.

Thomas Riddle  
Edmond, Oklahoma



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