

Well, hello!!! Too bad the first wasn't in the second week of the month. I would be on time with these periodic missives. I see a pattern developing but am somehow hopelessly unable to change it. It is, I believe, chronic procrastination. Something always comes up. How many people with ADD does it take to screw in a light bulb? Wanna go fishin'? Yup! The story of my life.

Okay, serious business. The plans for the live recording are coming along fine. We are set to go on April 4 at the Comedy Castle in Royal Oak. Dan Valeen will be with me as well as an opening act from the Comedy Castle. Drinks and appetizers will be from 6 to 7 p.m. then a buffet dinner will served. We will start the show at approximately 7:45 and hopefully be done by 10 p.m. The cost is \$50 per ticket but that includes two drink tickets, appetizers and dinner, an advance copy of the CD (when it is finished) and the show. I was a little leery of the price but everyone assures me it is a good bargain and it is the only way I will get some people to stop pestering me for a live CD. The Comedy Castle will begin accepting ticket orders over the phone later this month. It is recommended that you purchase your tickets in advance. I have been advised that many e mail requests as well as verbal commitments for corporate tables have been issued (six or more, there is a reduced rate) check out my website www.MikeRidley.com for more details.

Please direct any questions you have regarding the show to me at mikeridley@triton.net.

I will be sending along an email pdf next month as reminder.

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First joke ... not really a joke but an email from Terry & Barb.

We all can relate to this!! This has got to be one of the funniest I've heard of in a long time. This guy should have been promoted, not fired. This is a true story from the WordPerfect Helpline, which was transcribed from a recording monitoring the Customer care department.

Needless to say, the Help Desk employee was fired, however he is currently suing the WordPerfect organization for "Termination without Cause."

This is the actual dialogue of a former WordPerfect Customer Support Employee (now I know why they record these conversations):

Employee "Rich Hall, Computer Assistance; may I help you?"
Customer "Yes, well, I'm having trouble with WordPerfect."
Employee "What sort of trouble?"
Customer "Well, I was just typing along, and all of a sudden the words went away."
Employee "Went away?"
Customer "They disappeared."
Employee "Hmmm... So what does your screen look like now?"
Customer "Nothing."
Employee "Nothing?"
Customer "It's a blank; it won't accept anything when I type."
Employee "Are you still in WordPerfect, or did you get out?"
Customer "How do I tell?"
Employee "Can you see the 'C: prompt on the screen?"
Customer "What is a sea prompt?"
Employee "Never mind, can you move your cursor around the screen?"
Customer "There isn't any cursor; I told you, it won't accept anything I type."
Employee "Does your monitor have a power indicator?"
Customer "What's a monitor?"
Employee "It's the thing with the screen on it that looks like a TV. Does it have a little light that tells you when it's on?"
Customer "I don't know."
Employee "Well, then look on the back of the monitor and find where the power cord goes into it. Can you see that?"
Customer "Yes, I think so."
Employee "Great. Follow the cord to the plug, and tell me if it's plugged into the wall."
Customer "Yes, it is."
Employee "When you were behind the monitor, did you notice that there were two cables plugged into the back of it or just one?"
Customer "No."
Employee "Well, there are. I need you to look back there again and find the other cable."
Customer "Okay, here it is."

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Employee "Follow it for me, and tell me if it's plugged securely into the back of your computer."
Customer "I can't reach."
Employee "Uh huh. Well, can you see if it is?"
Customer "No."
Employee "Even if you maybe put your knee on something and lean way over?"
Customer "Oh, it's not because I don't have the right angle, it's because it's dark."
Employee "Dark?"
Customer "Yes - the office light is off, and the only light I have is coming in from the window."
Employee "Well, turn on the office light then."
Customer "I can't."
Employee "No? Why not?"
Customer "Because there's a power failure."
Employee "A power.....a power failure? ... Aha, okay, we've got it licked now. Do you still have the boxes and manuals and the packing stuff your computer came in?"
Customer "Well, yes, I keep them in the closet."
Employee "Good.. Go get them, and unplug your system and pack it up just like it was when you got it. Then take it back to the store you bought it from."
Customer "Really? Is it that bad?"
Employee "Yes, I'm afraid it is."
Customer "Well, all right then, I suppose. What do I tell them?"
Employee "Tell them you're too stupid to own a computer."

FSN-Detroit

Yes, some of you saw that geezerly looking guy at the end of last Saturday nights Fox Sports News broadcast. If you were in a bar you probably didn't hear what I was playing or singing while at Dick O'Dow's. Sports anchor Mickey York stopped in with a camera man and caught a parody I had written about the Lions and their failure to ever make the Super Bowl.

The melody is "What a Wonderful World it Would Be" by Sam Cooke. Sing along.

*Don't know much about salary caps. Don't know how they rate the quarterbacks.
Don't know much about a wild card game. Why the Lions stink and who's to blame
But I know this town would rock and roll. If we made it to the Super Bowl and
what a wonderful world this would be*

*Couldn't tell ya where the red zone is. Couldn't pass a basic football quiz
Tell me why the defense is always stacked and what position is a "Hasselback"
We've been waiting forty years it's true. If Moses can do it, we can to
and what a wonderful world this would be.*

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Now I ain't tryin' to be a smart Alice, but what I'm tryin' to say
is maybe restructure the salary incentives, win a few games or you don't get
paid

Don't why I'm putting up with this. Why I'm such a frickin' optimist
But everyday I double-check the mail. When do season tickets go on sale
I know that soon the Lions day will come. Maybe Super Bowl Forty-one
and what a wonderful world it would be

Thanks, Mickey and congratulation to the city of Detroit. I had my reservations
but you pulled it off and showed the world what we *could* be.

SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY

FEB. 1 FOUR GREEN FIELDS IN ROYAL OAK 8-12
FEB. 2 DICK O'DOW'S IN BIRMINGHAM 9-1
FEB. 3 GUS O'CONNOR'S IN NOVI 9-1
FEB. 9 GUS O'CONNOR'S IN ROCHESTER 9-1
FEB. 10 GUS O'CONNOR'S IN NOVI 9-1
FEB. 11 NUBS NOB IN HARBOR SPRINGS 3-6
FEB. 15 FOUR GREEN FIELDS IN ROYAL OAK 8-12
FEB. 16 DICK O'DOW'S IN BIRMINGHAM 9-1
FEB. 17 GUS O'CONNOR'S IN NOVI
FEB. 18 HOPPIES ON BURT LAKE 9-1
FEB. 19 NUBS NOB IN HARBOR SPRINGS 3-6
FEB. 22 FOUR GREEN FIELDS IN ROYAL OAK 8-12
FEB. 23 OSCAR'S IN DOWNTOWN MIDLAND 8-12
FEB. 24 GUS O'CONNOR'S IN NOVI 9-1
FEB. 28 OXFORD TAP IN OXFORD 8-12

MARCH

MARCH 1 FOUR GREEN FIELDS IN ROYAL OAK 8-12
MARCH 2 GUS O'CONNOR'S IN ROCHESTER 9-1
MARCH 3 GUS O'CONNOR'S IN NOVI 9-1
MARCH 4 HOOPS IN AUBURN HILLS 9-1
MARCH 8 FOUR GREEN FIELDS IN ROYAL OAK 8-12
MARCH 9 DICK O'DOW'S IN BIRMINGHAM 9-1
MARCH 10 GUS O'CONNOR'S IN NOVI
MARCH 14 OXFORD TAP IN OXFORD 8-12
MARCH 15 FOUR GREEN FIELDS IN ROYAL OAK 8-12
MARCH 16 NOGGIN ROOM IN PETOSKEY 8-11
MARCH 17 DOHERTY HOTEL IN CLARE 3-7
MARCH 18 THUNDER BAY RESORT IN HILLMAN 5-10
MARCH 22 FOUR GREEN FIELDS IN ROYAL OAK 8-12
MARCH 23 DICK O'DOW'S IN BIRMINGHAM 9-1
MARCH 24 GUS O'CONNOR'S IN NOVI 9-1
MARCH 25 HOOPS IN AUBURN HILLS 9-1
MARCH 29 FOUR GREEN FIELDS IN ROYAL OAK 8-12
MARCH 30 GUS O'CONNOR'S IN ROCHESTER 9-1
MARCH 31 GUS O'CONNOR'S IN NOVI 9-1

If you have friends or family who fought in WWII you should go to <http://www.beforeyougo.us>. There are some disturbing images but overall a great song and wonderful tribute to the veterans of the "Big One."

Liz, a former student, great friend and talented musician sent this to me from Alaska.

One evening an old Indian told his grandson about a battle that goes on inside people. He said, "My son, the battle is between two "wolves" inside us all. One is Evil. It is anger, envy, jealousy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority, and ego. The other is Good. It is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion and faith."

The grandson thought about it for a minute and then asked his grandfather:

"Which wolf wins?"

The old Indian simply replied, "The one you feed."

Well, folks, another month and we're still here. What that say about the nay sayers? It seems I am turning the Newsletter into a vehicle of information and humor dissemination. I hope that doesn't bother you. If you have something you would like to share, don't hesitate to send it along. I do however, have a few simple requests. I can't open wmv. pps. or any other windows media files. I have a Mac. (I know, it's a cult) I am also on dial-up which is just a step above the CB radio in terms of communication evolution. Lastly, please use good judgment about the things you send along. No hard-core.

I love hearing from you so check in now and then and let me know how you're doing.

This issue brought to you by some drunk ...really drunk, Steeler fans!!