

Caught in THE NET

Top 10 top-10 lists on the Internet provide useless advice and lampoon traditions

The Internet has been heralded as one of the greatest inventions of modern times — in moments, one can download music, find which movie is No. 1 in Pakistan and buy cheese direct from Wisconsin. However, the Internet is also a place of strange sites full of misinformation and propaganda. With this and the popularity of top-10 lists in mind, here is a compilation of the top 10 top-10 lists on the Internet.

#10 Top 10 stupidest things to do with a brick

This list is on the Top 10 list for its inane qualities. Most of the "stupid things" are not particularly funny — in fact, they are downright pathetic. However, the list does manage to incite both violence and sexual deviance. Davesite.com's stupid things get it on this list:

- No. 9: Go to a football game and chuck [the brick] at the opposing team.
- No. 2: Have an affair with it.

#9 Top 10 censored news stories of the year

This piece is a serious list of stories the author believes have been kept from the mainstream media because of their inflammatory nature. The No. 3 story on this list is about the "glass ceiling" for sex workers. The cited article by Magdalen Gaitskill of the *Left Sex Observer* said prostitutes and pornographic models' careers are "over by 35." This is but one of the terribly important news stories that has been kept from the public. Simpleton.com's list of the top 10 censored news stories comes in at No. 9 on this

#8 Top 10 Korean singers of the year

Geocities.com's Gayo critic's list makes the top 10 because of its valiant attempt to make Americans aware of the great melting pot of musical culture in this country. How else would the American populace have become aware of Lee Hyun Do and Roo'Ra if not for this site? Really, it makes the list because it is weird.

#7 Top 10 speeding excuses

This site has made an effort to help wayward drivers escape punishment by giving helpful excuses for use in case of a traffic stop. Where would drivers be without such helpful suggestions as "Oh, the speedometer is the big dial," and "How would I know if I was speeding? I was taking a nap." K40.com does its part to make the streets safer.

#6 Top 10 reasons to hate 'NSync

Boy bands have dominated the pop music scene for a while, but with popularity come naysayers. This particular naysayer is the site emeespud69 on geocities.com. The authors of this particular list are really not funny. As a matter of fact, they are absolutely scary. The list reads like the Unabomber's manifesto.

#5 Top 10 things to do with a newspaper

In honor of *The Battalion*, (or perhaps some other reason) Davesite.com has compiled a list of the top 10 things to do with a newspaper. Some are obvious, such as putting it by the toilet to read (reason No. 10), while others are creative yet disturbing: Roll it up and look through it, pretending to be a pirate (No. 5).

#4 Top 10 things to blame on the Internet

This list makes it onto the top 10 because of its author's meticulous nature. Not only does he come up with creative things to blame on the Internet, he comes up with specific keyboard commands to blame those things on. For instance, the No. 10 thing to blame on the Internet is glam rock, with the Unix command "cp" being blamed for David Bowie. Among the other things to blame on the Internet are the common cold, the itch in the inner ear and the breakup of the Beatles.

#3 Top 10 Santa pickup lines

With lines like No. 8 and No. 5: "I've got something special in the sack for you," and "Some of my best toys run on batteries," this list makes the top 10 for degrading one of America's best-loved traditions — Christmas. Many of the pickup lines in this list are far too dirty to be printed, so Santa lovers will have to go to cybercheeze.com to see the rest.

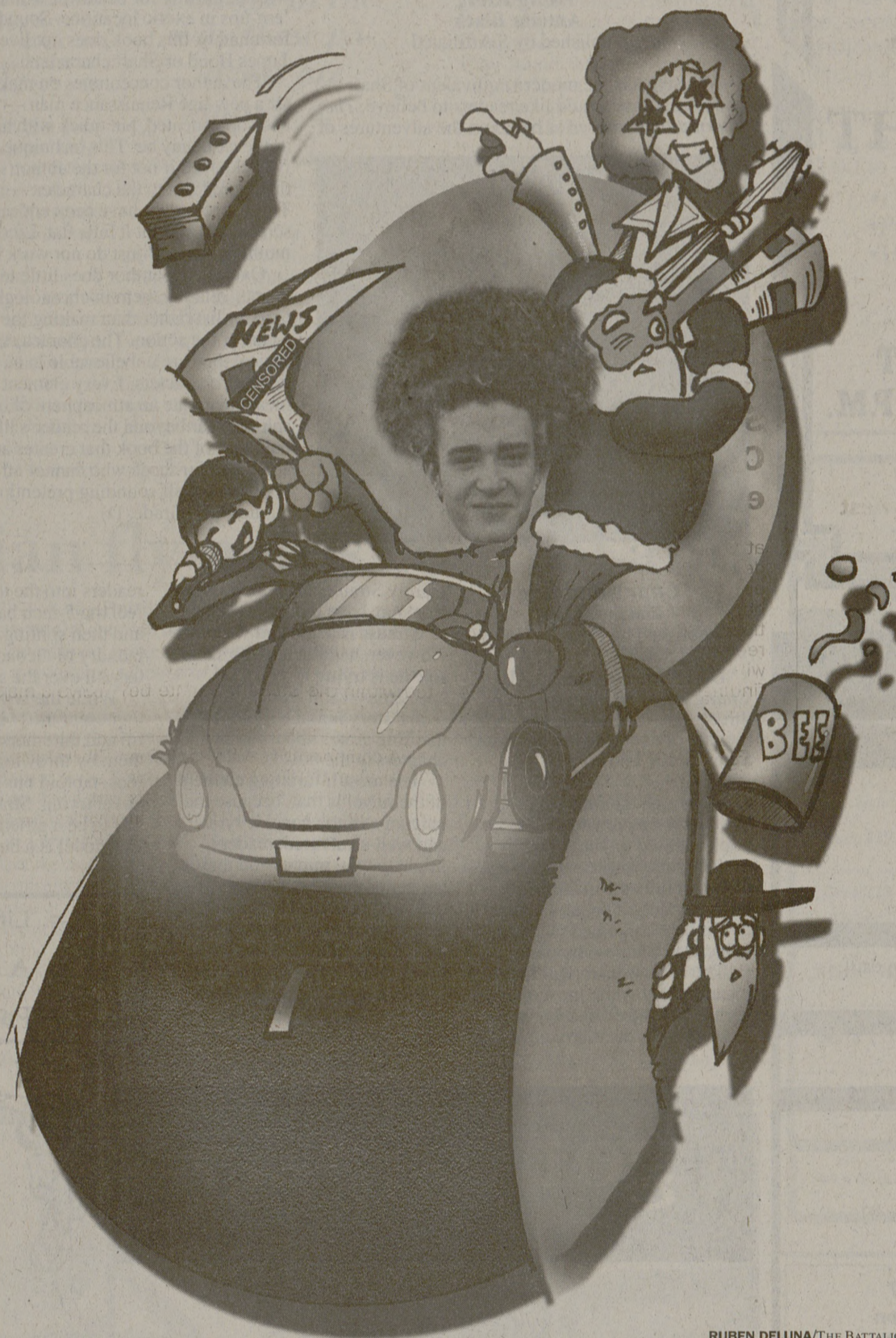
#2 Top 10 reasons why beer is better than Jesus

This cybercheeze.com list makes the top 10 simply because of College Station's per capita drinking statistics. Not to mention that it makes light of a cherished figure. But then again there are always reasons No. 7 and No. 5: "No one comes to the door trying to get you to drink a certain beer," and "Beer is acceptable at any holiday."

#1 Top 10 Amish spring break activities

Cybercheeze.com also grabs the top spot, with Amish jokes. Humorous lines, not altruistic motivations, give this list the top spot. Activity No. 10 is "drink molasses 'til you heave," No. 9 is "wet bonnet contest," and No. 7 is "buttermilk kegger." But the best line of this list is "sleep in 'til six a.m."

Competition was stiff among these lists, but five distinguished themselves as the cream of the crop. These were selected for their ability to insult everything from America's favorite whipping boys to its best loved pastimes. People may object to the sensitive subjects mentioned in these lists, including Santa and Jesus, but these ratings are solely the views of the writer, not *The Battalion* — Jason Bennyhoff



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