

WORKING LIFE

Big Scary Sodas

Did I *order*
the regular?
I don't think so.

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Illustration by Lou Beach

Pet Peeve of the Month

Last month, it was waiters who hover over your plate asking if you're "through workin' on that."

This month, we feature concession stand servers at movie theatres. You know how it goes: You order a small soda and they invariably say, "For only 25 cents more, you can get the regular size."

Well, if I'd wanted the regular size, I would've ordered it, wouldn't I? Also, have you seen the regular size? It could hydrate a soccer team.

Job of the Year

A wanted ad for a "chief chocolate taster" was recently run by the London grocery Fortnum & Mason in the *Daily Telegraph*. The salary: £35,000 a year (US\$54,000).

Reality Check

You too can live the life of a fast-food worker for a day. Just visit www.conceptlab.com/simulator/morning/clock800.html.

Let's see: Should you get up and shower or hit the snooze button? Will you wear the brown pants or the jeans?

Hair gel or spray? Raisin Bran or Mini-Wheats? Second bowl or leave for work? Drive fast or slow?

Now start making that first hamburger, add the special sauce, pickles...you get the idea.

Fringe Benefits

Former Tyco CEO Dennis Kozlowski is alleged to have used Tyco monies to fund an extravagant lifestyle. How extravagant? Well, it turns out that in addition to antiques, art, and furnishings, Kozlowski spent \$6000 for a shower curtain. Says one associate at a New York design firm, "It's possible if you picked out some really, really expensive fabric, expensive lining, and some nice fringe work."

Source/the Washington Post

Top Ten Worst Jobs 2001

Visitors to worstjob.com voted these as Top 10 Worst Jobs in America:

1. prison guard
2. human remains removal specialist
3. grocery store bathroom cleaner
4. ham skinner (Did you know you can skin a ham in about 12 seconds?)
5. waitress
6. housewife
7. ISP cancellation service person (Everyone who calls is pissed off.)
8. credit card customer service rep (See number 7.)
9. teacher (Unappreciated, overworked, underpaid.) (See numbers 5 and 6.)
10. cashier.

Worst Job in the World 2001: Pest control gopher, Finland (Apparently, Finland has a lot of small rodent-type pests and pest control is also responsible for cleaning up crime scenes.)

The voters were people holding those actual jobs.

Venus and Mars at Work

It seems that in the workplace, men form power hierarchies immediately, while women connect gradually, waiting longer to fall into a "pecking order," according to research at Northeastern University in Boston. But once you earn your female boss's trust, support follows.

Source/Self