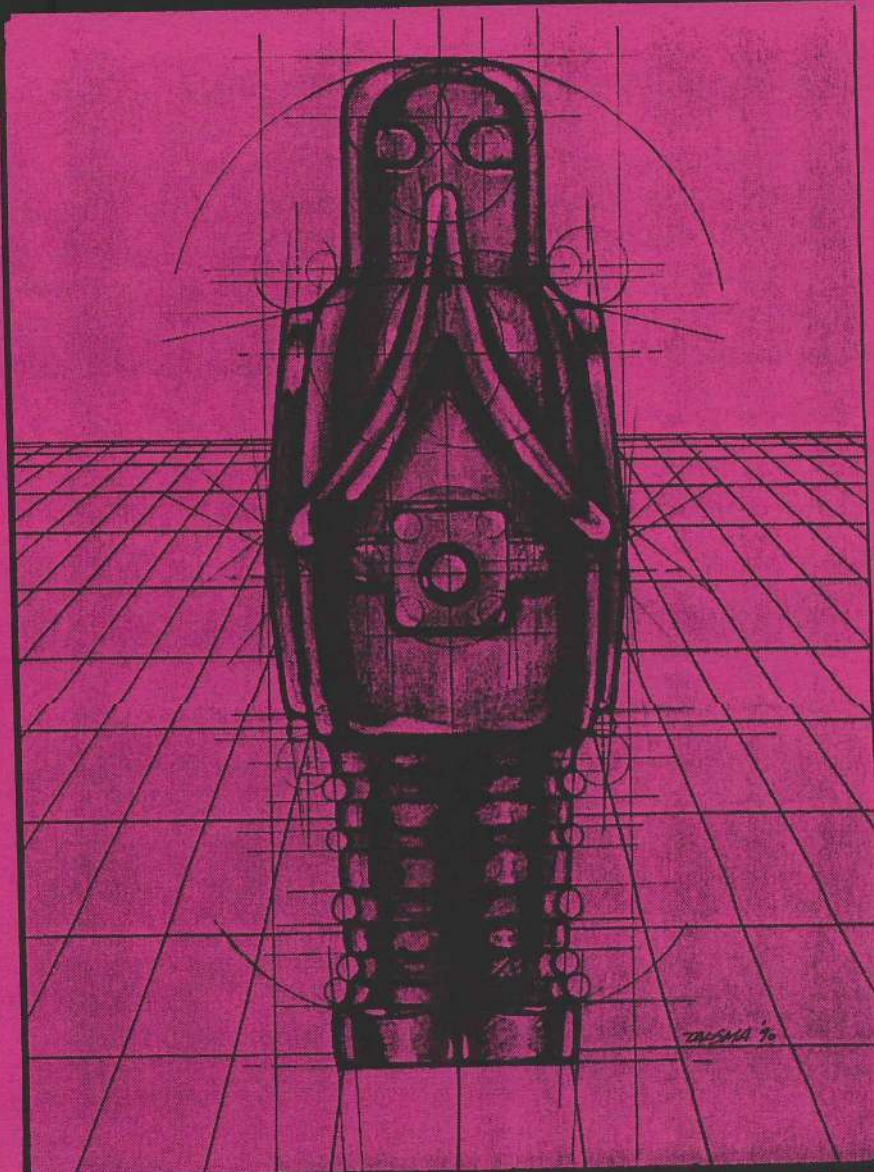


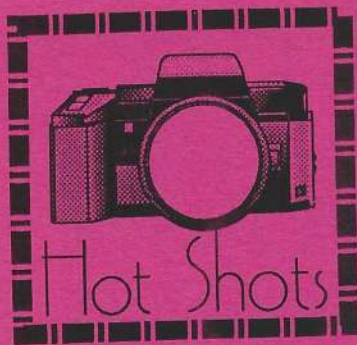
# OPTIMISTIC PEZ COLLECTOR

The Indispensable Guide to PEZ Collecting



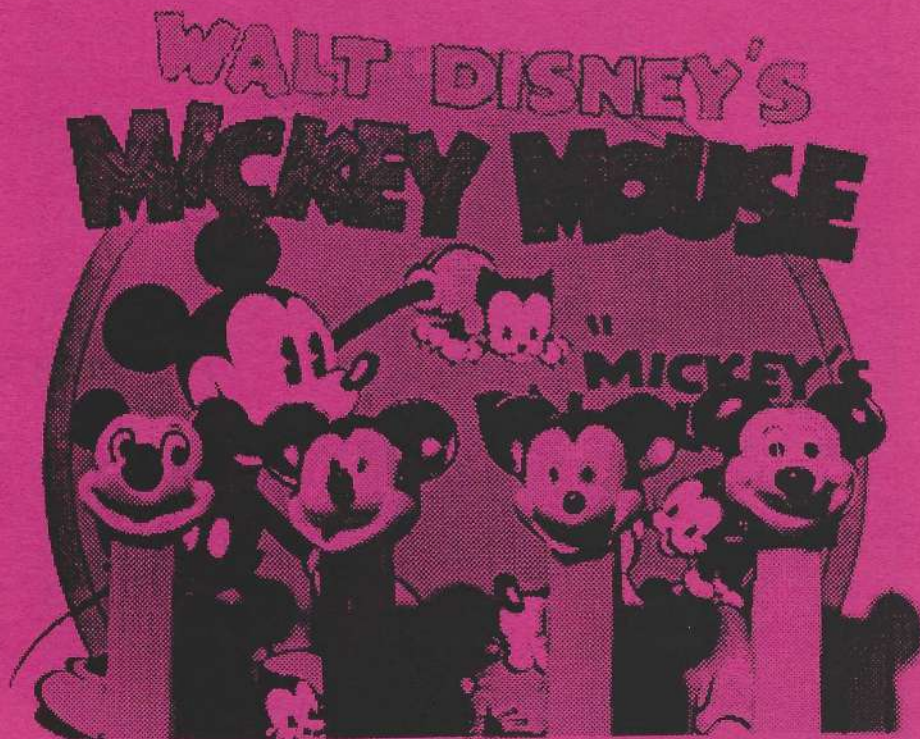
#6

November 1990



The theme for Hot Shots this issue is variations on a theme. Below are the four variations on Mickey Mouse as issued over the years by the PEZ Company. Mickey was one of the first character dispensers made when PEZ decided to add heads to their candy dispensers and his world-wide popularity has insured that some version of Mickey has been

available constantly since the early 1950's. The four variations are shown in chronological order from the 50's style head on the left to the 1989 remake on the right. Not shown here is a fifth Mickey, the one with the die-cut side. His head is identical to the 50's head, but he bears the image of Minnie Mouse on one side of the dispenser body, an image which is punched or molded through the outer shell to allow the brightly colored inner sleeve to show through. According to PEZ, Mickey Mouse is the best-selling dispenser of all time.



# OPTIMISTIC PEZZIMIST

**The Optimistic  
PEZZIMIST**  
Vol. 1, No. 6  
November, 1990

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**The Optimistic  
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## About the Covers

Dave Talsma, the pride of Swartz Creek, Michigan, provides the front cover this ish, a beautiful rendering of the Full-Body Spacema...uh, I mean Space Trooper. A big tip o' the PEZ Fez to you, Dave, and also to Ross Hartsough for the back cover photo, part of an early ad/promo sheet for the Warner Bros. dispensers, circa 1980.



# Mike Sez:

What a hectic month October has been! Lisa and I have moved yet again and we still have to step around boxes fifty times a day. In addition, we were both involved in our local theater group's production of the classic Agatha Christie play *The Mousetrap*, which opened on the 19th. Having rehearsals three or four nights a week really cuts into the free time, but it's lots of fun for a ham like me to be on the stage.

There are changes afoot in **The Optimistic PEZZIMIST**, too... nothing major, but changes regardless. For one thing, my source for the colored envelopes I've always used has ceased carrying them. I knew the time would come when I could not continue to match envelopes and covers, but I didn't expect it so soon.

Change number two: The Collector Gallery cards are no more. I know several of you really liked these little drawings of dispensers, but I've decided not to continue them. Reasons? The drawings for the cards were done two or three years ago, when my computer was new. I've used up almost all of the ones I did back then and have no desire to do more now. The drawing program I use now is much more sophisticated: it does away with the jagged, dot-matrix look of those early drawings, but it also takes longer to create artwork. Instead, Hot Shots will appear on the inside covers.

Change number three: For many of you, this is the last issue in your subscription. If a pink notice is enclosed in this issue, it's time for you to renew. After much thought, I've decided to raise the price for subscriptions. The first issue contained 28 pages and cost me 65¢ to mail. The most recent issues contain 36 pages and cost 85¢ to mail. The Post Office is planning to increase their first-class rates in February. I thought about mailing **O.P.** by second class mail, but it would greatly increase your wait for each issue; you wouldn't want the magazine to arrive two days **after** a big auction, would you? As the size of the magazine has increased, so has the quality and the time it takes me to assemble an issue. So, beginning now, subscrip-



tions will go up to \$18.00 per year. Advertising rates will also increase, with full page ads now \$20.00 per page. Advertisers who wish to include an insert must pay a fee of half the cost of their ad to help cover increased postage required to mail your flyers/photos/etc. Classified ads will remain free to all subscribers. I take no glee in announcing these increases; indeed, the only part of publishing **O.P.** that I dislike is the record-keeping/bookkeeping part of it. But if the magazine is to continue, I can't continue going into the hole on each issue.

Happier news: As I write this, we've got 111 subscribers! I'm amazed how PEZ collecting is catching on. As the field gets more crowded, things may get harder to find. On the other hand, we've seen how collector demand gets attention from dealers. More and more old and rare PEZ are going to surface. Prices will probably continue to rise, but there will still be bargains to be found. I foresee the time coming when a national PEZ Collectors Convention is actually feasible!

With the next issue, a second year of **O.P.** begins. I plan to make it a special issue and I hope I can count on your continued support. Share your knowledge, your discoveries, your photos with the rest of us and let's keep this hobby from becoming a haven for investors and speculators. Let's keep it fun!

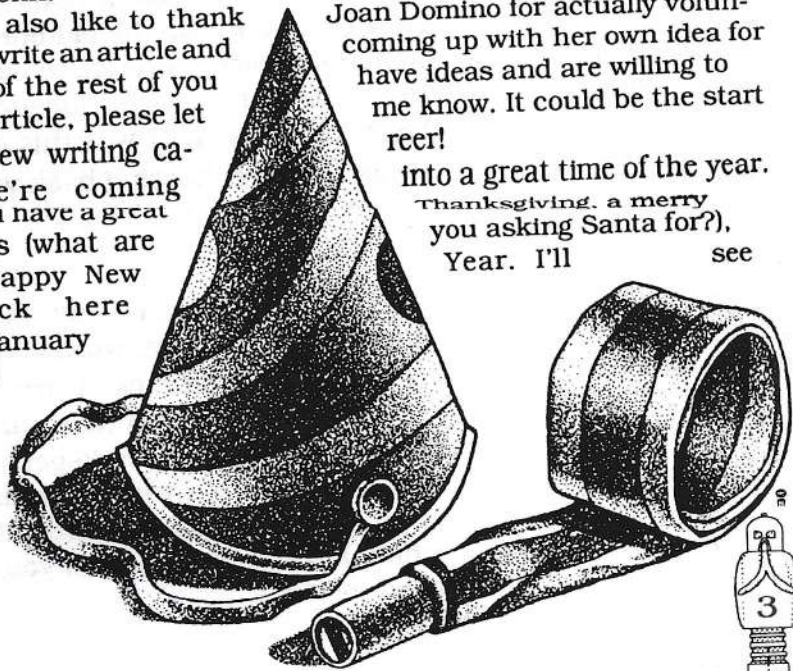
My apologies to John Devlin. It was John who alerted me to the Tick and the prominent use of PEZ in the Tick's comic book. Thanks, John!

I'd also like to thank teering to write an article and it. If any of the rest of you write an article, please let of your new writing ca-

We're coming I hope you have a great Christmas (what are and a Happy New you back here around January 2...1991!

Joan Domino for actually volunteering up with her own idea for have ideas and are willing to me know. It could be the start reer!

into a great time of the year. Thanksgiving, a merry you asking Santa for?), Year. I'll see



# NEWS

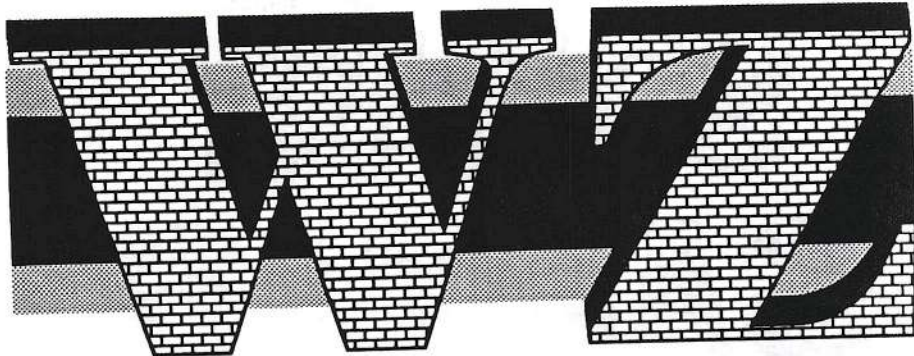
## Auction Newz

### Richie Sternfeld's PEZ Auction September 12, 1990:

Bozo die-cut—\$133  
Zombi—\$66  
Diabolic—\$73  
Snow White—\$85  
Snow White—\$75  
Spaceman—\$97  
Lion with Crown—  
\$23  
Little Lion—\$12  
Wonder Woman  
(soft head)—\$26  
Wonder Woman—  
\$5  
Clown—\$30  
Clown—\$22  
Winnie the Pooh—  
\$31  
Monkey Sailor—\$11  
Joker—\$41  
Jiminy Cricket—  
\$24  
Popeye—\$45  
Santa Claus A—\$54  
Panda—\$3  
Puzzy Cat—\$19  
Daffy Duck—  
no bids  
Practical  
Pig—\$17



- Collectors who were hoping for some new Halloween dispensers or an Easter Bunny-type remake of an existing dispenser were disappointed this year. The same old Witch, Pumpkin, and Skull made their appearances, although I did see a new blister card for this year's Halloween displays. Gee, no Mr. Ugly this year?
- One semi-new item now becoming available is the Panda remake which was promised almost a year ago. It's almost exactly like the old one, but with fewer pieces and more painted on/decal features. The question that begs asking is "Why was this dispenser chosen to bring back when they could just as easily reissued something more desirable?"
- As if you don't have enough PEZ variations to look for, word comes to us at O.P.HQ that lucky Europeans have access to no less than three non-US Charlie Brown dispensers. Like the Garfield variations of last year, these are slightly different faces which US PEZ has decided you don't need to see.



- Remember back in OP#2 when we encouraged PEZophiles to write to McDonalds and suggest PEZ as a Happy Meal premium? Well, we have it on good authority that McDonalds **did** approach PEZ Prez Scott McWhinnie. They wanted to use McDonalds characters like Ronald McDonald, Grimace, and the Hamburglar on dispensers which would only be available at the Golden Arches. The McD folk proffered an initial order for fifteen million PEZ...if you know PEZ, you won't be surprised to hear that McWhinnie turned 'em down....sigh.
- On a cheerier note, the next new PEZ dispensers will be a series of four Muppet characters, including Kermit and Miss Piggy. Don't look for 'em until 1991, though. Your O.P. Oracle can also categorically state that there will be NO Bart Simpson or Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles gracing the tops of your fave candy containers. You-know-who doesn't seem to think they have lasting appeal; he wants to stick with "oldies but goodies". However, if the Jetsons and the Flintstones don't count as "oldies", who does?

Auction Results  
continued:

Mickey Mouse  
(remake A)—\$2  
Mickey Mouse  
(remake B)—no  
bids  
Dumbo—\$6  
Captain  
America—\$30  
Witch—\$41  
Witch—\$18  
Witch—\$18  
Rooster Whistle—  
\$26  
Rooster—\$5  
Rooster—\$31  
Speedy  
Gonzales—\$24  
Stewardess—\$41  
Pack of candy  
refills—\$33  
Wrapper—\$22  
2 Stickers—\$20  
Choco PEZ—\$26  
Cardboard visor—  
\$154



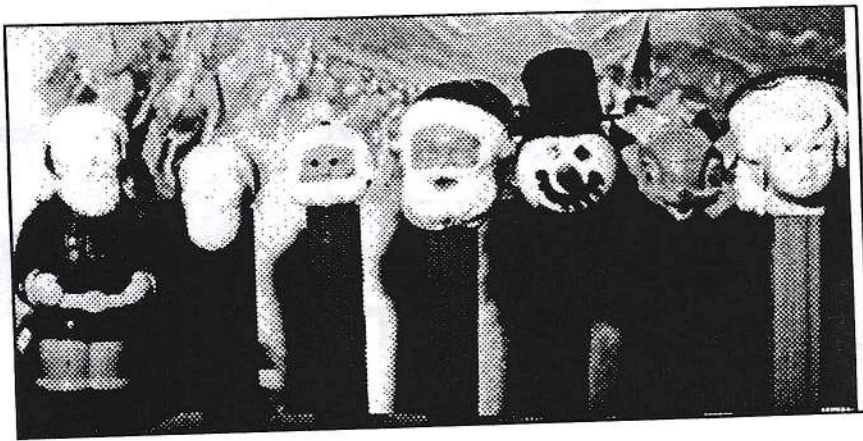
# SO MANY SANTAS

...SO LITTLE SPACE

Like some of you collectors, I seem to be swamped with countless common Santa dispensers. Friends, family or "good buys" have increased the number of Santas I have to a population that would rival New York City! In fact, I told my husband, "Don't put the lid on the box with the Santas in it...I think they're multiplying!" A magic wand would come in handy to turn them into the "super-rare" dispensers that can't seem to be found anywhere. But since no one has found a magic wand yet, what do you do with all those Santas? I have compiled a list of ideas for displaying your holiday dispensers—maybe you can try some of these decorating tips this holiday season:

- The oldest idea is to hook them onto your Christmas tree. This idea may be a little "yawn" to some of you seasoned collectors, but some of us rookies didn't know you could hook Santas. All you need are your basic ornament hooks (you've got them—look in the attic) and hook into the space in back under Santa's hat.
- While you're "hooking" them, hook some onto your horizontal window blinds.
- Anyone who doesn't have one of those huge wreaths that gets bolted to the front door, raise your hand. Now put down your hand, put your hand in your pocket and go buy one! A wreath is a perfect spot to wire Santas. What a nice, friendly greeting for your guests and an obvious statement of what you want for Christmas.
- Tie some Santas onto some presents. Come on, you can part with a few...okay, maybe just for family...alright, alright, just your Mom!
- This year, instead of adding those fuzzy red bows to your banister garland, wire on some Santas.
- Eating and drinking is a big part of the holiday season. So when you're serving dessert, hide one in the plum pudding. Or, add it to the top of your holiday cake or pumpkin pie. Surround Santa with mounds of whipped cream and he will look as if he's right at home at the North Pole.





- Why not freeze some Santas in ice for the punch bowl? Just remember to clean and dry those Santas before and after using them (Does anybody know if Santas are dishwasher-safe?).
- If you are big on entertaining guests around the holidays, then try using some Santas as place card holders. Fold the card in half, put one flap under his beard, and the other half will hang down with your guest's name.
- Fireplace mantels are great for hanging stocking, and also for lining up those Santas...as long as it doesn't get too hot!
- If you have accumulated enough Reindeer dispensers, you can make a "reindeer-drawn" Santa. Put the reindeer two-by-two in a line, join them with ribbon and add a Santa in the back holding the reins.
- This article is starting to get too serious. How about adding a Santa as a "fourth Wise Man"? (God forgive me!!)
- Put a Santa dispenser with the cookies and milk you leave out for Santa on Christmas Eve. Make sure it's filled with PEZ candy—I hear wild cherry is his favorite flavor!
- Try using some of your Santas for holiday jewelry. Glue on a pin clasp, or use them as earrings that would rival Cher's! You may consider leaving the candy out of the earrings because it would weigh them down and you don't want your earlobes dragging on the ground through the snow and slush!
- Not to forget those who celebrate Hanukkah, how about spinning a Santa instead of the traditional Driedel? (Maybe a snowman would be more appropriate!)

A few last words about decorating with Santa dispensers: **PUT CANDY IN THEM!** Most ordinary people, unlike us crazed collectors, will expect to find candy under those heads.

These are just a few ideas to get you started. I'm sure you can come up with your own ideas to make Santa dispensers a part of your holiday traditions. Have fun, and have a safe, happy, and healthy holiday season.

—Joan-Marie Domino



# COLLECTOR PROFILE

## Dave Talsma

I'll profile myself since I'm the PEZ freak of the family!

Occupation—Graphic Artist

Favorite PEZ—Universal Monsters (Who wouldn't think so!)

I seem to live my life as if I lived in California—I'm into snowboarding, mountain biking, bicycle racing, rollerblading, collecting expensive toys, listening to alternative music, and mostly being unwilling to grow up!

I remember having loads of PEZ when I was young, but my fondest memory was when my grandpa took me to the store and got me a Captain Hook out of the vending machine. Too cool! God only knows what happened to the captain...since my mom threw everything away!

Then I grew up, went through puberty and all that junk, and then got married (I'm now 29). About three years ago, I was suddenly drawn back to collecting PEZ when I saw the Hulk dispenser in a toy store. After that, we started scouring every store to find all available dispensers. About this same time, my sister was making weekly treks to Canada to play bingo. She found us about 25 dispensers that were not available in the U.S. I was a PEZ freak from that point on!



I really had no idea how to acquire any of the older PEZ, until I saw an ad in the Candy Container Collectors magazine. The ad was for a full-body Santa, which we bought—and that ultimately led us to the Old Variety

**The Optimistic PEZZIMIST**

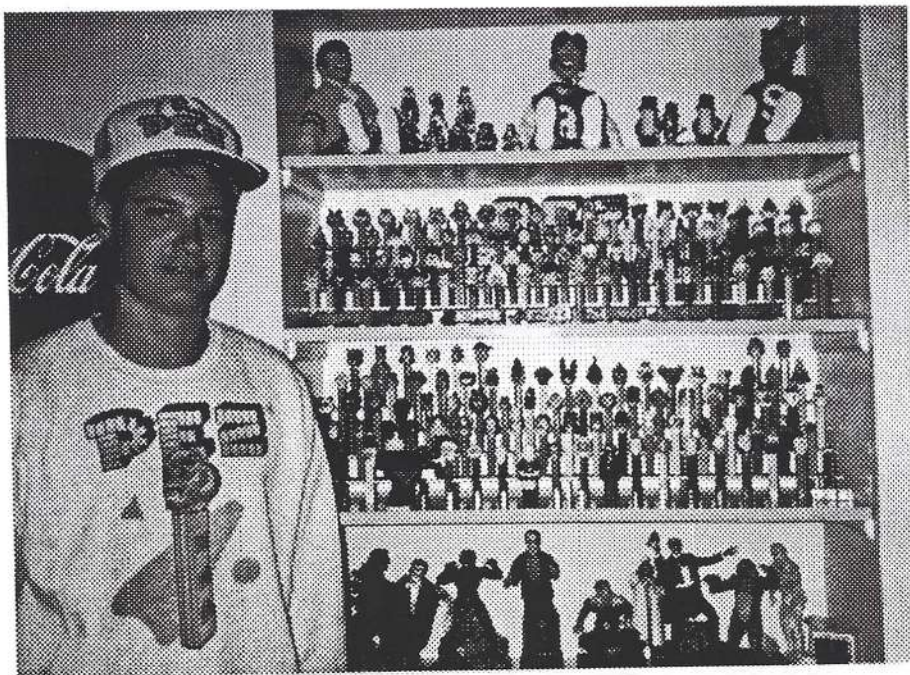
**November, 1990**



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**The Optimistic PEZZIMIST**

**November, 1990**



— Store. From then on, we were involved in all auctions, sales, trades—you name-its!

— Our collection has grown to 180ish dispensers. The most exciting find had to be this summer when I located the ultra cool 50's space gun—and bought it for a song!

— The dry spells between PEZ fixes has led me into other collecting interests—monster models, etc. and Soakys (super cool 60's bubble bath containers). Soaky collecting is sort of like PEZ—the characters are quite similar.

— My big question to all other spastic, frantic collectors is—what's the hurry? Chill out! What will you do when you find all the PEZ? 'Cause like they say—half the fun is getting there!

The cover  
artist for  
this issue  
tells how  
he got  
infected by  
the PEZ  
bug



pez,

lies,

& videotape

by mike robertson

Back in O.P. #4, I mentioned that I had seen a tape of part of a cable TV show segment concerning PEZ. Since I was relying on my memory, it comes as no surprise that I had just about every single fact wrong (maybe I should run for political office). I have finally secured a copy of the infamous tape for my very own and have subjected it to the utmost scrutiny. The tape still joins the segment "already in progress", but I've decided to share a transcript of it with you and to relate the adventure which followed.

The show is actually called **ATTITUDES** and it's on the **Lifetime** cable channel. Two women host the show; one is blond and cute, the other one is brunette and drives me right up the wall. As the tape begins, the two hosts are standing behind several tables filled with PEZ.

Blond: 'Cause this is a little.....off your....track.

Brunette: Is this specifically an Eastern thing? Because I grew up in California? Maybe?

Blond: This is the Walt Disney collection from the mid-50's



and we have a whole bunch of familiar Disney friends. You can see Mickey Mouse and Pluto and Pinocchio and Jiminy Cricket. **(Camera pans across Tinkerbell, Jiminy Cricket, Pinocchio, King Louie, Mowgli, Pluto, Goofy, Mickey, Donald Duck and Casper (a Disney character?), Peter Pan and Captain Hook.)** Remember those?

Brunette: Yeah, sure!

Blond: Okay, now we have the psychedelic, hippie-inspired PEZ prototypes from the Sixties. **(Close-up of one of the pentagonal display stands, which is holding the Orange, Mimic the Monkey, Baseball Glove, Psychedelic Eye, Psychedelic Flower, and Golden Glow)** None of these ever made it to market, but it also included a lighter which was hoping to appeal to adults **(pointing to the Golden Glow!!!! Sheesh!)**. We may also remind you that this whole collection of 85 antique PEZ pieces is valued at 4500 dollars and is on loan from L\*\*\*\*\* T\*\*\*\*\* Associates in New York City. **(Name deleted to protect the editor from slander litigation and the anonymous person from calls from PEZ freaks.)**

Brunette: They do kinda taste like baby aspirin.

Blonde: Let's see, come on over here....look at this. This is the UN of PEZ and these containers represent different nations and that's around the Sixties. **(Close-up of another pentagonal stand, containing a Knight, a Sheik, a Maharajah, a Mexican Boy, a Pirate, and one mystery PEZ Pal I can't identify, since it faces away from the camera! It has blue hair and two little white things atop its head, looking sort of like a Nurse's cap)** These are the holiday Pezzes, Lynn. They're from the Sixties, too. Look at the angel **(Yet another pentagonal stand, with two Santas, a Snowman, a Chick-in-Egg, an Angel, and a Silly Clown A, representing who knows what holiday).**

Brunette: Oh, yeah, that's sweet.

Blonde: This is PEZ Americana—different aspects of American history from Pilgrim to Astronaut—also Sixties **(A long stand containing Pilgrim, Betsy Ross, Wounded Soldier, Captain, Daniel Boone, Indian Chief, Indian Squaw, Uncle Sam, Football Player, Pilot, Stewardess, and something else. Visible behind them is another pentagonal stand with an Engineer, a blond Boy with Red Cap, Bearded Sailor, Pirate, Easter Bunny, and an Olympic Snowman).** And, uh, these are inspired from the Sixties/early Seventies and from television shows and a few monster movies of the day **(Creature, Scare Wolf, Witch (3-piece, orange face, yellow hat), black Octopus, Wolfman, Creature from the Black Lagoon, Frankenstein, Zorro, Green Hornet and Space Trooper. Incidentally, the long stands are all white plastic, not the red flocked kind, but they all have a sticker on them that says PEZ International. Anybody else got one of these?).** They're fun, aren't they? **(Also in**



*view are the four Peanuts characters.....wonder how they got there before they appeared anywhere else in the country?)*

Brunette: They are kinda fun...and ya keep the candy in that little box! *(Close-up of pentagonal stand with Fireman, Policeman, Sheriff, Doctor, Nurse, and the mystery dispenser. It is seen from about the temple back and does not have ears like a PEZ Pal; the ears are large, round and lie flat against the head. There seems to be a single piece forming a fringe of white hair which flows into a large beard, but the head is bald on top. What is it?)*

Blonde: Yeah, and you just flip it out, you know?...let's get Bozo out here to give us a piece of candy. *(She removes Bozo from a stand which also holds Popeye, Olive Oyl, Brutus, and the Bride and Groom!)*

Brunette: Now, I guess this means that, you guys, we could collect anything and then eventually it'll be worth something.

Blonde: You take Bozo's head back....but the main thing is, you really shouldn't take it with your fingers. That's the fun of it, right? Well....we have a PEZ for everybody in our audience! Yes! You all get PEZZES!

The show ends, the credits roll, and the camera takes one last pan over the tables of PEZ, not pausing long enough to give a good look at the mysterious ones.

Putting my deerstalker cap on, I began some detective work. First, who or what was L\*\*\*\*\* T\*\*\*\*\* Associates and why did they have such a good PEZ collection when they didn't even subscribe to **The Optimistic PEZZIMIST**? I first called directory assistance in Manhattan and tried in vain to find a business listed under T\*\*\*\*\* and every permutation of it I could think of. No dice.

Throwing caution to the winds, I ventured out to Austin's public library, where I waded through a huge repository of phone books. I finally found a listing for a L\*\*\*\*\* T\*\*\*\*\*; his associates were not mentioned.

Soon, I had L on the phone. I asked if he was the one with the PEZ collection; his immediate answer was, "Yes, do you want to buy it?" Since I didn't have 4500 dollars on me at the moment, I declined, but I did ask about the collection. L was acting as agent for a client whose father once worked for PEZ. The heir had little interest in the dispensers, but was quite interested in getting a whole bunch of money for them. L told me the collection was currently being shown in England and that it would be auctioned as a lot by a London auction house. I told him about the magazine for PEZ fanatics which I publish. I asserted my belief that he and his client could get a higher price for the collection by auctioning them through O.P. as individual items. I even offered him freed



advertising space and told him I would be glad to run the phone auction and do all the packaging, mailing, etc. In exchange, I would receive either 10% of the total monies generated or any two dispensers from the collection that I chose. It seemed a fair deal to everyone. L said it sounded promising. I told him I was especially curious about the two dispensers I could not readily identify, especially the bald-headed, bearded character. He said, "Oh, the Father Time-looking guy?"

He said he had taken slides of all the dispensers and would be glad to send me copies. I was to send him samples of the magazine and my proposal concerning the auction so he could show the client.

I lost no time in keeping up my end of the deal. I sent a complete set of **The Optimistic PEZZIMIST** (including the valuable #3) and waited for the slides to arrive.

And waited.

And waited.

I called L...many times. At one point, he said he thought the client was leaning toward letting me auction the collection. Oh, yes, the pictures! He would get them **right** off to me!

Pages fell off the calendar. My hair turned gray. I chewed my nails...my **toe** nails. More calls to L. Now the client wasn't sure; wasn't there some way I could buy the whole bunch? I thought about raising O.P. subscriptions to 500 dollars a year. Or I could sell my whole collection and then buy **his** collection...nope, it wouldn't work. Every time I called, L would say he would get the pictures to me. It began to seem like a cruel joke. Finally the client decided to go ahead and auction the collection in England. "Oh, didn't I send you those pictures?" < sigh >

I had given up hope of acquiring the collection or even any part of it. (If you're curious, I would have picked the Psychedelic Flower and the Unknown Bearded Guy.) But would I ever even receive the pictures so I could document one, or maybe two, unknown PEZ?

I am putting the final touches on this article tonight; it is October 24. No pictures...and now no answer at L's home. After three months and over two dozen calls to New York, I know no more than I did back in August. Perhaps you would second guess your editor. Some reader will no doubt say, "Well, I would have bought the collection if you had told me about it!" Past experience tells me that if I had given out L's name and number, I would have been nosed out of the picture completely and the collection would not have reached the PEZ collector market. So that's where the matter stands. Once again, I held space in the magazine until the last minute, hoping that L would actually keep his word to me. I'd hoped to show you pictures of something you had never seen before, to document something previously unknown. Maybe it will still happen. Don't hold your breath. Unless your initials are L.T.



# Richie Sternfeld PEZ Auction #7

Closing Date: Thursday, November 15, 1990

## Rules:

1. I will accept mail or phone bids.
2. You may call after 4:00 p.m. (E.S.T.) on the closing day (November 15) to check the current high bid or raise bids.
3. There are no minimum bids.
4. Invoices will be mailed to the successful bidder the day after the auction. I must receive payment within two weeks or the item(s) will be offered to the next highest bidder.
5. The winning bidder pays postage, minimum of \$1.50.
6. The auction will end at 9:00 p.m. (E.S.T.) or until 15 minutes pass without the phone ringing.
7. Bids must be raised by a minimum of 10%.
8. Closing night, all bids/raises will be rounded off to the nearest dollar.

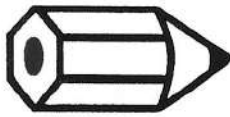
**Richard Sternfeld**  
**90-60 Union Tpke.**  
**Glendale, NY 11385**  
**(718) 847-6883**



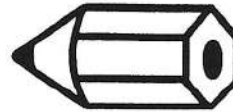
1. **Casper.** 1st series. Austria. **This is a die-cut.**
  2. **Casper.** 1st series. Austria.
  3. **Bozo.** 1st series. Austria. Has about 80% paint on face/head.
  4. **Regular.** 1st series. Austria. White/yellow.
  5. **Regular.** 1st series. Austria. Green/green.
  6. **Uncle Sam.** No pat. #. Austria. Flesh face.
  7. **Uncle Sam.** No pat. #. Austria. Club Med face.
  8. **Orange.** 4th series. Austria.
  9. **Pony-Go-Round.** 1st series. Austria.
  10. **Spike.** 4th series. Yugoslavia.
  11. **Mr. Ugly.** 4th series. Austria.
  12. **Brutus.** 1st series. Austria.
  13. **Indian Chief.** 1st series. Austria.
  14. **Captain.** No pat. #. Austria. Missing decal on hat.
  15. **Hippo.** 2nd series. Austria.
  16. **Crocodile.** 2nd series. Austria. No spring action in head.
  17. **Zorro.** 2nd series. Country? In original package.
  18. **Thor.** Series? Country? In original package.
- Numbers 19 through 27 are whistle-heads.**
19. **Lamb.** 4th series. Hong Kong
  20. **Dog.** 4th series. Yugoslavia.
  21. **Donkey.** 4th series. Austria.
  22. **Duck.** 4th series. Austria.
  23. **Camel.** Series? Country? **Has feet.**
  24. **Monkey.** Series? Country? **Has feet.**
  25. **Frog.** Series? Country? **No feet.**
  26. **Penguin.** Series? Country? **Has feet.**
  27. **Parrot.** Series? Country? **Has feet.**
  28. **Papa Smurf.** 4th series. Austria. **Has feet.**
  29. **Dalmation.** Series? Country? **Has feet.**
  30. **Li'l Bad Wolf.** Series? Country? **Has feet.**
  31. **Chip.** 4th series. Yugoslavia. **Has feet.**
  32. **Baloo Bear.** Series? Country? **Has feet.**
  33. **Mowgli.** Series? Country? **Has feet.**
  34. **PEZ Flag/Pennant.** This was a 1950's premium. Flag measures 5 1/2 inches by 8 1/2 inches. Double-sided.

**Closing Date: Thursday,  
November 15, 1990  
(718) 847-6883**

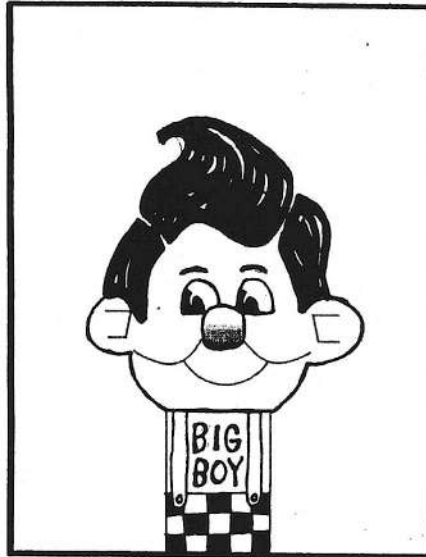




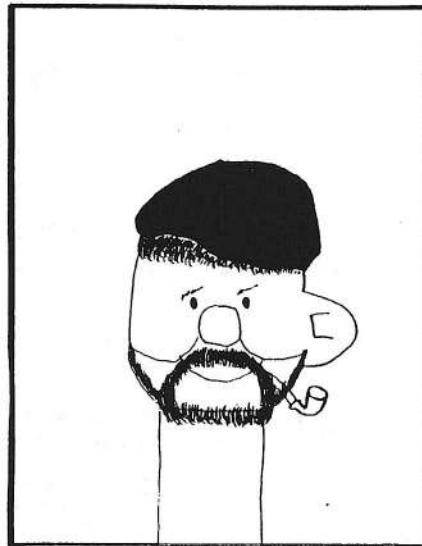
# Results of the *Draw a PEZ Pal* Contest



Looking at all the entries was big fun; several times I laughed out loud. But I had to narrow the field down to just three. Below are the winners; on the following pages are the other entries. Enjoy!



For first place, I chose the Chinese Pezking Opera character above, submitted by **Richard Yep**, because of the beauty and wealth of detail. Second place goes to **Ned Russell's** version of Bob's Big Boy, one of several pop culture icons immortalized by Ned for this contest. Third place belongs to **Gordon Simpson** for the Van Gogh PEZ dispenser, just because it made me laugh. Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all who entered; your entries were a pleasure to see!





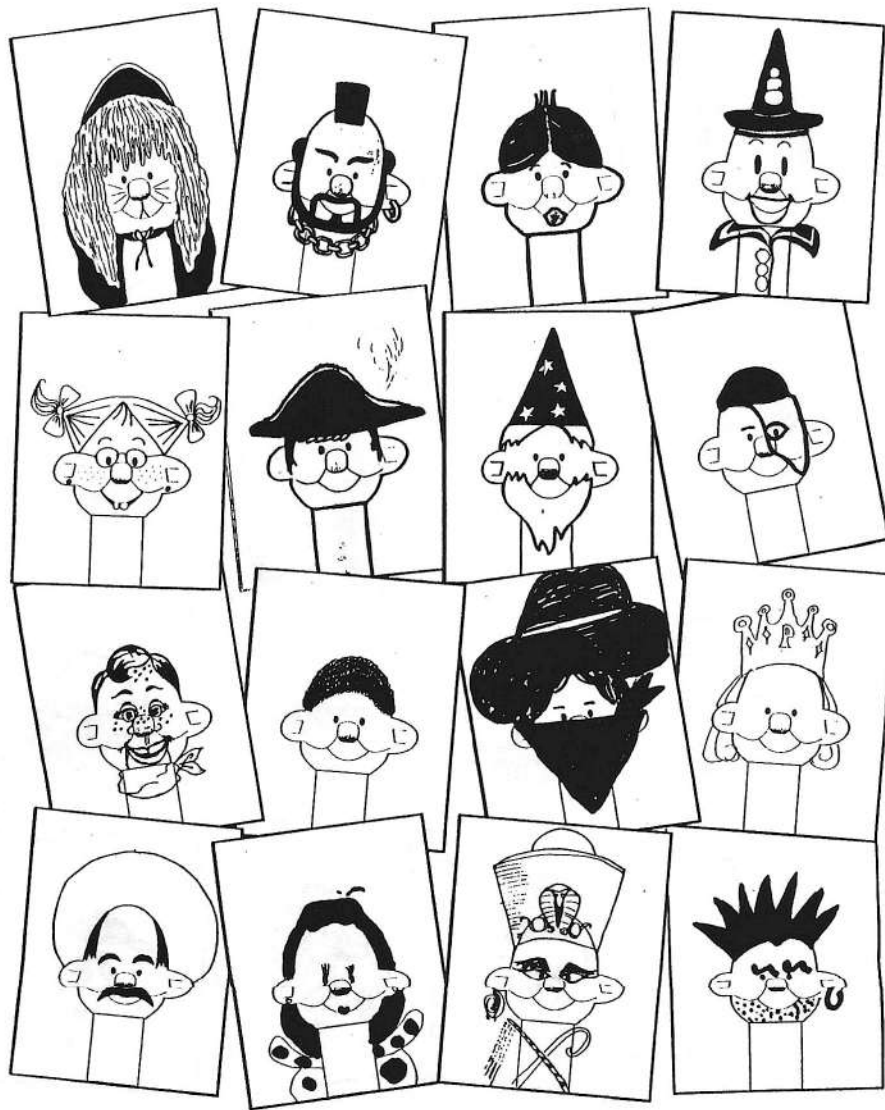
**Top Row:** Bride of FrankenPez-Dave Talsma; Grandpop-Candy Levinson; Mad Hatter-Sue Wheelis; Mr. Rogers-Ned Russell

**2nd Row:** Baldie-John Devlin; Pezt-Callee Jo Smith; Pezce Brother-Joan-Marie Domino; Spike-Candy Levinson

**3rd Row:** Annette Funpezzo-Sue Wheelis; My Peter Pez (Peter Eovino, of course!)-Kathleen Eovino; Home Boy-Andrea Gurdon; Papa San-Callee Jo Smith

**Bottom Row:** Mr. Potato Pez-Callee Jo Smith; Mr. Peanut-Ned Russell; Pez Detective-Candy Levinson; Dizzy-John Devlin





**Top Row:** Pez and the Beast-Joan-Marie Domino; Mr. T-Dave Talsma; Alfalfa-Sue Wheelis; Koko the Clown-Ned Russell  
**2nd Row:** Clara Pez-Candy Levinson; Napolipez-Sue Wheelis; Wizard-Andrea Gurdon; Phantom of the Opera-John Devlin  
**3rd Row:** Howdy Doody-Ned Russell; Bert Convy-Gordon Simpson; Piztol Pez-Callee Jo Smith; King Pez-Kathleen Eovino  
**Bottom Row:** Juan Valpez-Judy Wehner; Miss Butterfly-Abbey Levinson; Egyptian-Richard Yep; Punk Rocker-Marian Devlin





**Top Row:** Pezcasso A-Gordon Simpson; Don King-Richard Yep;

Elvira-Dave Talsma; Lisa Simpson-Ned Russell

**2nd Row:** Elvis Pezley-Kathleen Eovino; Elvis-Dave Talsma; Elvis

Pezley-Sue Wheelis; Elvis Pezley-Joan-Marie Domino

**3rd Row:** Pezette-Kathleen Eovino; Baby Pez-Candy Levinson;

Apezham Lincoln-Sue Wheelis; Lincoln-Andrea Gurdon

**Bottom Row:** Baker-Maryann Kennedy; Baker-Joan-Marie

Domino; Count Pezula-Abbey Levinson; Drac Pez-Dave Talsma





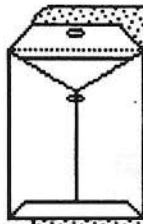
**Top Row:** Ernie-Sue Wheelis; Bert-Sue Wheelis; Insomniac-Candy Levinson; Pezcasso B-Gordon Simpson  
**2nd Row:** Artiste-Candy Levinson; Judy Jetson-Joan-Marie Domino; Fly Pez-Callee Jo Smith; Mrs. Valentine-Abbey Levinson  
**3rd Row:** Charlie Chaplin-Sue Wheelis; Betty Boop-Ned Russell; Mario-Sue Wheelis; Welder-Joan-Marie Domino  
**Bottom Row:** Cop-Out-Callee Jo Smith; Boris Badenov-Sue Wheelis; Space Traveler-Candy Levinson; Globey-Ned Russell





**Top Row:** Moe-Sue Wheelis; Curly-Sue Wheelis; Mr. Clean-John  
 Bianchi; Barbershop Quartet-Candy Levinson  
**2nd Row:** Punk Pez-Andrea Gurdon; Alice Cooper-Bernie Domino;  
 Operator-Joan-Marie Domino; Princess Pez-Kathleen Eovino  
**3rd Row:** Grammie Pez-Candy Levinson; J.R. (Great-Grandpa)-  
 Callee Jo Smith; Little Mermaid-Ned Russell; Johnny  
 Appleseed-Sue Wheelis  
**Bottom Row:** Pillsbury Doughboy-Ned Russell; Jughead  
 Jones-Sue Wheelis; Thinking Cap-Candy Levinson;  
 Witch Doctor-Dave Talsma





# The Letter Box



Dear Mike,

This summer I visited the Holy Land of Candy!! Hershey? No, Orange, Connecticut!!! I drove straight through from Silver Creek to the Connecticut border. Naturally, when I arrived the plant was on a two-week shut-down. However, it didn't stop me from running up and down the sidewalks of Orange, shouting "Eureka!"

By pure luck, I stopped at a gas station that was one block away from Prindle Hill Road! Would you believe the next street sign had PEZ and an arrow to point the way??? And Dorothy and Toto got excited over the Yellow Brick Road? I could give them lessons on excitement!!! Finally, I drove up a hill and wonder of wonders, a sign in little blocks and an arrow showed PEZ Shipping and Receiving. I couldn't believe my nieces would rather have gone to Disneyland than PEZ Land...Then I saw the headquarters and the huge PEZ across the front. What?! No band of golden angels to light my way?! Better yet! A large sign smack in front saying "PEZ Candy Now Accepting Applications—Apply Within!" I don't know really what happened next, but I know that gradually my Mom's voice penetrated my blankly staring face as she yelled words, such as "Mortgage Payment" and "Tenured Teacher." Guess I freaked out and was going to get a job at PEZ and die happy. I did take an application just to keep as a souvenir of dreams not possible. (But maybe when I retire from teaching.....)

We did go into the PEZ plant and were told it was on shut-down and were also told that tours, etc., were never ever given. After checking with many important pundits, I was allowed to have my picture taken inside. (Tension is rampant! Visitors are less than welcome; I felt like a terrorist from Willy Wonka). The blue chair faced a window and it overlooks the PEZ bushes. I admit I babbled. I was literally a child in a candy store.

In a few brief moments, I was on my way out the door. I did see a Koala (with feet) and actually held it, but it belonged to someone who worked there. A kindly receptionist overlooked the fact I babbled incoherently, drooled a bit and pointed everywhere like an astronaut on a moonwalk. I waved my OP at her. She looked at it, looked at me and smiled, bewildered and bemused.

Would I drive 12 hours without stop again? Would I still stand, giggle nervously and jump up and down and point at a sign that spells PEZ????  
Yes, unequivocally, yez!

Joan Davies  
Silver Creek, New York



Thanks for the info, Joan. I'm surprised you were not frisked and run through a metal detector. I have heard from a couple of sources recently that Mr. McWhinnie has seen this magazine and was not at all pleased that it exists. I get real depressed and



upset when I hear about how the company which produces my favorite collectible despises my efforts to promote it. On the other hand, I got a call from a prospective subscriber recently. I told him about costs, back issues, etc. and then asked where he heard about O.P. To my shock, he said the PEZ company had given him my name and address!

Dear Mike:

In the days when you and I were students (?) at Baylor University, I can well recall hearing conversations between you and Jamie Gardner in which PEZ dispensers featured prominently. At the time, I formed the conclusion that the two of you were severely warped individuals. The passage of time, and, more particularly, a casual perusal of the first four issues of the Optimistic PEZZIMIST has completely confirmed the accuracy of that estimate.

Though it is no doubt heresy to admit this, I have never, to the best of my knowledge, owned a PEZ dispenser or eaten a single piece of PEZ candy. Until I started reading O.P., I never knew enough to regard this circumstance as a state of deprivation or to see myself as the pitiable mockery of a human being which I obviously am. I am willing to be adventurous, but since it is obvious that PEZ collecting is an addiction that must be as hard to shake off as smoking opium, I'd like to get my feet wet gradually.

To this end, please use the enclosed \$15.00 to start my subscription, and for no other purpose! Oh, what the heck, here's another \$15.00 to start one for my brother Pat, too. Though neither one of us is a PEZ collector, we do both delight in all manifestations of inspired creativity, and O.P. clearly falls into that category. I only hope that this subscription will not prove to be the first step on a long road of moral and intellectual decline.

Sincerely,  
Mike Smith  
Arlington, Texas

Readers, Mike and I were members of a secret satirical group in college which was one of the high points in our lives. Mike recently had another high point when he and his wife, Diane, had their first child—Dylan Patrick Smith. I also think the idea of buying subscriptions for all one's siblings



**is truly wonderful and encourage all of you to examine the far reaches of your family trees to find possible new subscribers.**

Dear Mike,

Advertising in the O.P. brings results! I was so pleased with my last ad; I got eight PEZ I have been looking for some time. And I've met four or five new PEZ collectors. Keep up the good work.

Craig Robbins  
Chatsworth, California

**I had several letters from advertisers in the last issue stating that they had gotten good results. Still, around 80% of the subscribers do not take advantage of their free ads each issue.**

Mike,

I love your writing style! I become very anxious waiting for the new issues to arrive in my mailbox. When that day comes and I finally have it in my hands and spend the entire night talking with everyone again, we all whine about having two more months to wait for the next one. How depressing! Anyone can tell by my phone bill in which month OP was issued. What a wonderful job you do. What a service you provide to us sicko Pezzers.

I've enclosed a copy of a PEZI comic book which shows "the Judge" PEZ Pal. It is actually the Admiral, according to the storyline of the comic. I have a couple of other comics that explain the existence of the "Girl" PEZ Pal. It is actually PEZI dressed as a girl to fool kidnapppers. Also I have a comic explaining that the jewel in the "Maharajah's" turban was a gift of gratitude from the Sultan of Framistan for solving a problem of missing royal jewels. Too fun. Until I got the comics, I didn't understand that the PEZ Pals were actually all one kid, PEZI, dressed to solve different mysteries.

Sue Wheelis  
St. Clair, Missouri

**Sue, this letter did me a world of good! I remember waiting for each issue of The Old Variety Store to come, feeling the same anticipation you mention. I'm glad you look forward to receiving O.P. and took the time to write me. Hearing from readers does make it more pleasant to continue the drudgery of putting together each issue.**

**I read with interest the PEZ comic featuring the Admiral character. Although Maryann Kennedy also wrote me concerning this topic, I'm still not convinced. All the other comics feature PEZI assuming the disguise of a particular Pal, such as the Maharajah or the PEZ Girl. But he doesn't disguise himself as the Admiral! Further research may be necessary in this matter. I heard from one collector claiming to have the Judge/Admiral dispenser, but photographic proof has not yet been furnished to me.**

Dear Mike,



Great contest; I hope you can print a lot of entries. True to your prediction, my collection has doubled in the last year (nine months, no less) since the magazine brought my collection out from the closet of 60 characters onto the shelf of 125 and into the cross-continental PEZ telecommunications network. Of course, this did require my

maximum dispenser allowance to double as well, from \$10 to \$20—I suppose a tawdry sum for the hours of enjoyment spent gazing at Jiminy Cricket or Full-Body Santa. Also, if you happen to live in the land of Misbegotten PEZ Parts, my Puzzy Cat and Moo Moo Cow B want eyes; Silly Clown B has no hair, and Henry Hawk can't squawk. I have extra pieces and leftover heads if you want to find a match. I'm still looking for that flea market grab bag; until then, my doubles do not warrant a market listing.

Thanks a zillion for your PEZ determination.

Gordon Simpson  
New York City, New York

**The PEZ Spare Parts Junkyard! Not a bad idea, but I don't wanna be the one who runs it.**

Dear Mike,

Sorry I haven't written sooner about the nice job you are doing on the OP—I just haven't had the time! I work at a movie theater, and the hours—evenings, weekends, holidays—don't give me much in the way of free time.. With the summer over, though, I'm now ready, willing, and able to give my support to the cause of PEZ collecting.

I got into PEZ collecting as a hobby away from my other hobby—collecting and showing Breyer plastic horse and animal figurines. Like PEZ, it's a postwar plastic collectible that's quickly becoming popular. Breyer, however, has encouraged the collector's movement through its full-color newsletters and catalogs. Every year we have special items available only to collectors, company-sponsored conventions and shows; not only that, they usually keep us well informed on what's new and what's being discontinued.

It's the kind of company participation PEZ collectors dream about, and, as Breyer shows, is not only good for the collector, but the company as well. In other words, I don't think PEZ can really use the argument that they don't "need" to support the collectors in any way because it won't really affect their bottom line; I think the positive PR of a little company support—maybe a special edition dispenser or two, or even an open letter of encouragement to us—would more than pay for the effort itself. It can be done, and other companies are doing it; I think eventually we will succeed in dragging the company into the hobby, even if it kicks and screams the entire way.

Always,  
Andrea Gordon

I agree, Andrea, that a concentrated display by PEZ collectors might do some good. However, I know from editing this magazine and from other endeavors that the vast majority of people will not write a letter, will not make a phone call, will not lift a finger to make themselves heard. If anyone has an idea for a big, hard-to-ignore project, I would love to hear it. And please, readers, if you write to PEZ and mention O.P., emphasize that O.P. exists due to a love of PEZ, not a desire to control or usurp anyone's authority. When PEZ believes they can gain (sales, knowledge or public notice), then maybe they will support us.

**Reader participation is the backbone of O.P.!**

**Send your letter to:**

**Mike Robertson**

**P.O. Box 606**

**Dripping Springs, Texas 78620**



# PEZazz

## Photos and Postcards (4" x 6")

Sold in sets of 10. Circle your choices from the following list of 145!:

Air Spirit, Alpine, Arithmetic, Arlene, Astronaut 1 or 2, Baloo, Batgirl, Baseball Glove, Batman(Soft or Hard or w/Cape), Betsy Ross, Bozo, Bride, Bozo Die-Cut, Brutus, Bugs, Bullwinkle, Captain, Casper, Captain America, Captain Hook, Chip, Clown(w/ collar or long face), Cow B, Cocoa Marsh, Cool Cat, Cowboy, Creature/B.L., Crocodile, Daffy, Dalmation, Diabolic, Daniel Boone, Donald Duck (Reg or Die-Cut), Dopey, Droopy Dog, Dumbo, Duck Child, Easter Bunny '90, Fishman(Black), Foghorn, Giraffe, Groom, Frankenstein, Goofy '89, Green Hornet, Henry Hawk, Hulk, Joker, Hulk, Indian (Brave, Chief, Squaw, Whistle), Jiminy Cricket, King Louie, Mowgli, Li'l Bad Wolf, Lion w/crown or Lion's Club, Mary Poppins, Merlin Mouse, Mickey Mouse(Die-Cut, A,'89), Olive Oyl, Olympic(Snowman, Wolf, Ski, Bob), Panda, Pear, Penguin, Peter Pan, Peter PEZ, Petunia Pig, Pilgrim, Pilot, Pinnochio remake, Pluto, Popeye(Orig, remake), Practical Pig 2, Pumpkin, Psychedelic(Eye[Flesh, Black], Flower), Rabbit, Regular PEZ Box, Tweety, Road Runner, Robot(Blue, Yellow), Santa Full Body, Scare Wolf, Snow White, Smurf (or Papa), Space Gun '50s, Speedy, Spiderman, Spook, Stand by Me, Sylvester, Thor, Tinkerbelle, Uncle Sam(Light, Dark), Vamp, Wile Coyote, Pooh, Witch(1,3 piece), Wolfman, Wonder Woman(Soft, Hard), Zorro, Zombi, Wounded Soldier, Whistles:(Camel, Frog, Koala, Monkey, Parrot, Penguin, Rhino, Tiger), Group Shots:(5 Olympic, 6 Bunny, Bride/Groom, 5 Regular, 30 Totems, Arithmetic w/ Instructions, 87 from 1976 cover of Manufacturing Confectioner Magazine), Premiums:(Big Clicker, Costume Book Cover, Glasses, Inflatable Peter PEZ, PEZ Flag, PEZ Flavor Girls, Visor, Yoyo.)

**New! Photo of 213 PEZ Dispensers available in 2 sizes:**

**8" x 11" OR Poster Size 20" x 28"**

### Prices:

Photos 4" x 6":	\$8.00 + \$1.00 P & H = \$ 9.00/set of 10
Post Cards 4" x 6 ":	\$12.00 + \$1.00 P & H = \$ 13.00/set of 10
Photo 8" x 11 ":	\$10.00 + \$1.00 P & H = \$ 11.00 each
Poster 20" x 28 ":	\$35.00 + \$3.00 P & H = \$ 38.00 each

Total Sets of Photos: \_\_\_\_\_ @\$8.00 + \$1.00 P&H= \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Sets of Post Cards: \_\_\_\_\_ @\$12.00 + \$1.00 P&H= \_\_\_\_\_  
Total No. of 8" x 11" Prints \_\_\_\_\_ @\$11.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_  
Total No. of 20" x 28" Posters \_\_\_\_\_ @\$38.00 each= \_\_\_\_\_  
TOTAL OF CHECK OR MONEY ORDER ENCLOSED = \_\_\_\_\_

- Allow 3 weeks for delivery
- Send check or Money Order payable to "Jill Russell" to:

Jill Russell  
3103 Lincoln Ave.  
Alameda, CA 94501



# **UNIQUE PEZ ITEM FOR AUCTION**

**Cardboard Display Box  
for  
PEZ Football Player dispensers,  
Colorfully illustrated  
Excellent Condition  
Originally held 24 dispensers in  
boxes.**

**Minimum Bid for this item is  
\$100.00**

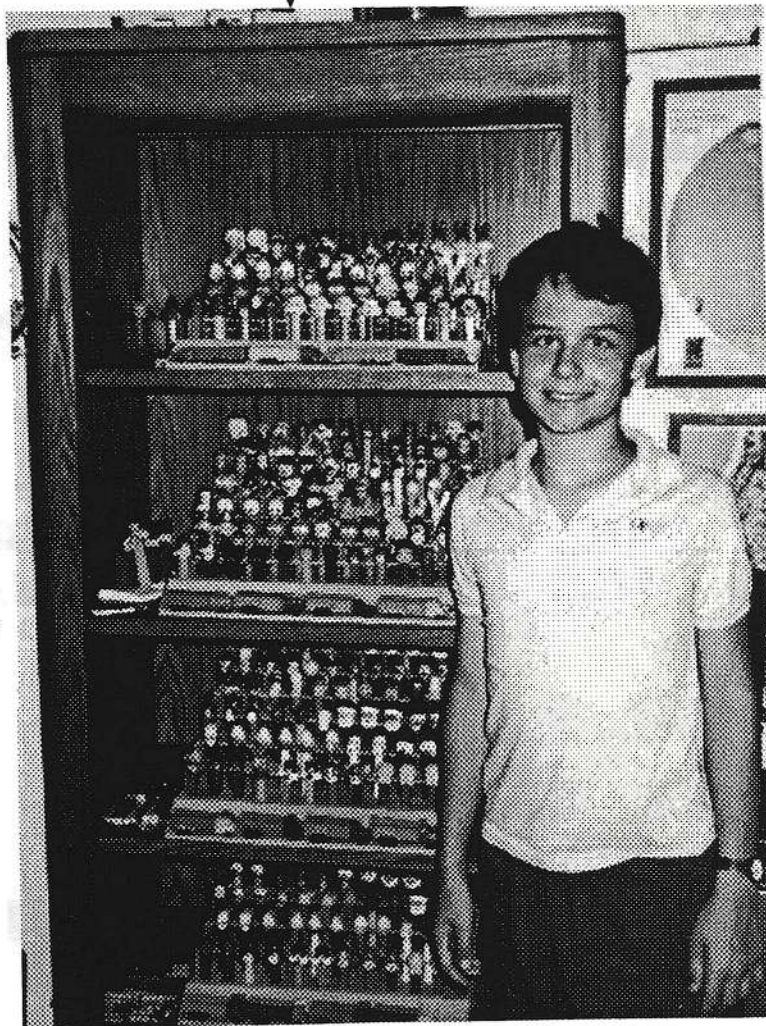
**Auction will close November  
12th at 10:00 p.m. Eastern  
Standard Time**

**Norm Hunt  
139 W. 4th St.  
Clifton, N.J. 07011  
(201) 772-5669**



# Show-offs

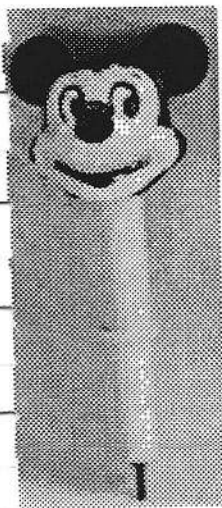
This new regular feature will show how various PEZ collectors show off their collections. If you display your PEZ in your home (or somewhere else!) send a photo to O.P. Pictured here is Joe Wilcoxon's son, Jason, with the collection they work on together. Collecting as a family is a neat idea!



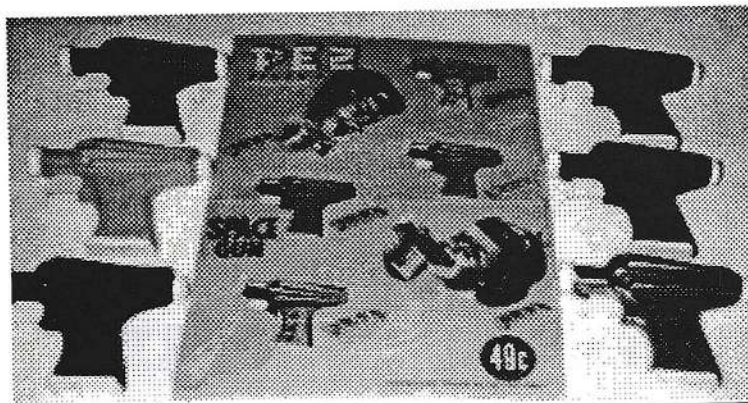
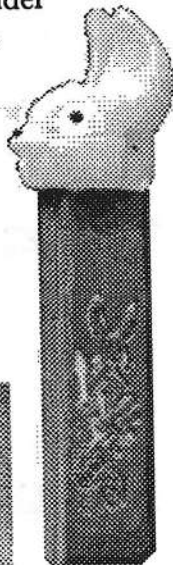
# FINDZ



Get another new O.P. feature, FINDZ will keep you up-to-date on new, rare or odd PEZ items that are turning up with increasing regularity these days. Above is a Norm Hunt find—a triangular pen obviously given to candy wholesalers in an attempt to win PEZ orders. Speaking of pens, Roland Austin found a strange one; it's a small ball-point with the head of the original Mickey Mouse dispenser! This is **not** one of Roland's clever hoaxes (like the Star Wars PEZ in issue four)—the back of the head is slightly different from the dispenser head. It doesn't say PEZ anywhere, but there must be **some** connection. Elton and Shirley Garber acquired a collection which contained a bizarre version of the Die-Cut Easter



Bunny. Every die-cut rabbit I've seen featured the old-style, long-eared, ivory-colored head. But this one has the extremely common yellow bunny head which was constantly available until this year. The Garbers believe it is not an added-on head, as it has the metal pin through the head like the older dispensers did. Hm m m m m m m m m. Finally, Jeff Alley becomes one of a very few proud owners of one of the most beautiful PEZ pieces: the store display card for the 1950's Space Gun, with all six guns intact. All the guns are different colors: red, blue, yellow, black, maroon and silver. It's a beauty! What have **you** found? Send us a picture so we can continue to catalog your finds!



**PEZ WANTED**  
**Large Reward!!!**  
**PEZ WANTED**

**If I have to pay, I'll pay.  
If I have to trade, I'll trade.  
I'm easy!**

**Please send lists & prices to:  
Craig Robbins  
22262 Craggyview  
Chatsworth, CA 91211**



**Please help me find the  
following PEZ:**

**Bride**

**Groom**

**Die-Cut Easter Bunny**

**Lion's Club Lion**

**Dopey**

**Mary Poppins**

**Arithmetic**

**Make-A-Face**

**Psychedelic Flower**

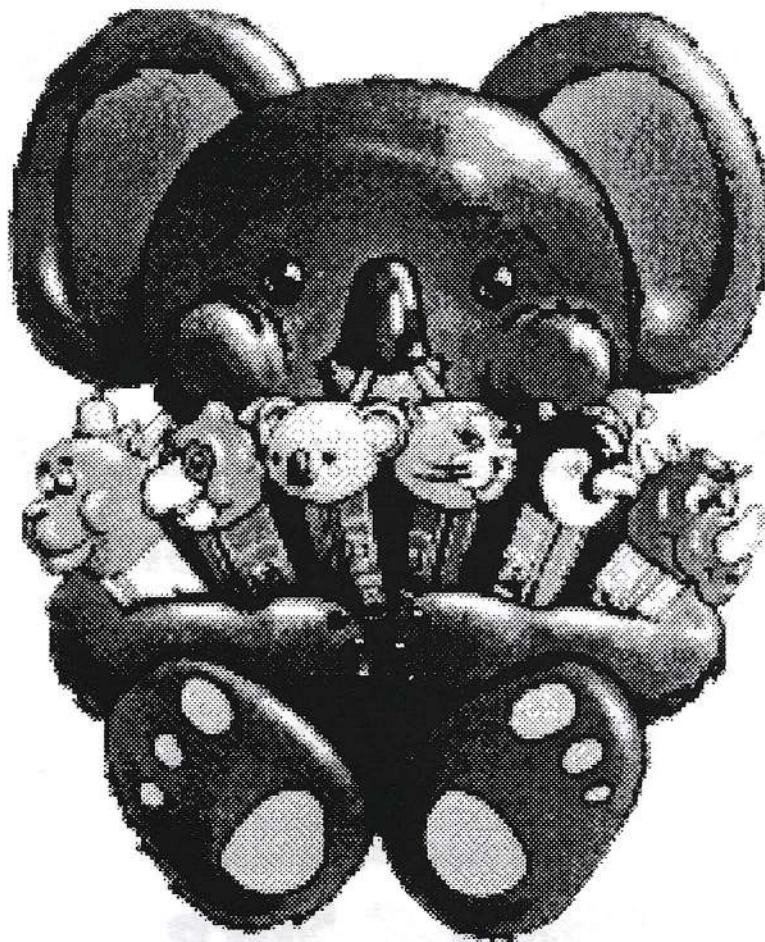
**Olympic Snowman**

**Olympic Wolf**

**Olympic Wolf w/**

**Bobsled Helmet**





Another goodie from the collection of Ross Hartsough is this promo poster featuring the elusive Koala. He's holding the "Whistling Zoo" collection, none of which were ever sold in the United States. From left to right, the whistles are: Camel, Parrot, Koala, Tiger, Penguin, and Rhino. The Koala is either blowing into two whistles at once or else he has discovered a way to ingest PEZ nasally.



# PEZ WANTED PEZ



**Pineapple,  
Pear  
&  
Admiral**

**Also Wanted:**

**PEZ**

**Premiums**

**Enclosures**

**Advertising**

**Costume Book #2**

**Old Display Boxes**

**Color Variations**

**Costumes—Series B (Have A's to trade)**

**PEZ**

**PEZ**

**PEZ**

**Top Prices paid! ☐ Excellent Traders!**

**Please Contact**

**Maryann Kennedy**

**409 N. 5th Street**

**Marshall, MN 56258**

**(507) 532-6926**



# PEZZANT Market

Advertising Dolls wanted: Speedy Alka Seltzer, Reddy Kilowatt, Fruit Stripe Gum, Caravelle Candy Bar, Good Humor Bar, Mobil Oil, Orkin Man, Sony Boy and many others. Please send lists and prices to Craig Robbins; 22262 Craggyview; Chatsworth, CA 91311. Top prices paid or will trade for PEZ.

Wanted: Your Help! Please send me copies of the PEZ stickers you have in your collection and I will do an article for the Optimistic PEZZIMIST. We may discover there are as many stickers as there are PEZ! Even if you have just one—sned it—you may discover you are the owner of the rarest sticker! Thanks. Marilyn Cooper; 8408 Lofland Drive; Houston, TX 77055. 713-465-7773

Wanted PEZ: I am still missing about 78 PEZ, some quite common. Let me know what you have for sale. I also need Kinder Eggs, Tarzan and Daniel Boone items. Joe & Jason Wilcoxon; 1551 West Bay Drive; Largo, FL 34640.



CANADIAN PEZ! I have a few non-U.S. PEZ I am willing to trade for common U.S. PEZ I still need. Do you

need these whistles: Clown, Penguin, Panda, Parrot or Tiger? How about Chip, Winnie the Pooh or the Dalmation Pup? If so, write or call. Send a list of available trades. Seth; 510 Ontario St. Apt. 4; Toronto Ontario, Canada M4X 1M7. Or call 416-927-1104.

60's and 70's Cereal prizes and boxes wanted. From cereals such as Quisp, Quake, Cap'n Crunch, Trix, etc. Have PEZ and hundreds of other toys for trade. Graham "Premium King" Trievel; Rt. 113, Box 481; Lionville, PA 19353. Write or I'll come to your house.

Wanted: Old Christmas Seals (1903-1989, mint or used on envelopes) and anything related. Also need PEZ "Space/Dinosaur" sticker stamps and album, plus Spide-man mask and comic book. Thanks, Sue Wheelis, for adding 75 old credit cards to my collection. I still need more, folks! PEZ along, little doggie! Roland Austin; P.O. Box 2641; Stillwater, OK 74076. 405-624-9624.

PEZWANTED: Baseball Glove, non die-cut Bozo, Cow B (big nose), original Easter Bunny, Koala Whistle, Thumper, single axle

trucks. PEZ FOR TRADE: Frankenstein, Brutus, Betsy Ross, Batgirl, Indian Squaw, Roadrunner, Uncle Sam, Maharajah, Peter PEZ, Pilot, Speedy Gonzales, plus more. Elton and Shirley Garber; 7500 Glenwood Drive; Conneaut, OH 44030. 216-224-1680.

Hi. Still looking for the same old PEZ: Pear, Pineapple & Admiral. Also looking for book "Advertising Dolls". Love corresponding with fellow PEZZERS, so please write. All letters answered. HAPPY PEZZING! Maryann Kennedy; 409 N. 5th Street; Marshall, MN 56258. 507-532-6926.

Wanted! New PEZ collector seeks commons outside of those currently available. Also issue #3 of OP. Please help. I have tons of movie material (1980-present) to trade or will purchase. Thanks! Matt Lee; 2860 Ironwood Drive; Grand Prairie, TX 75052

A DESPARATE PLEA FOR PEZ! Beginning collector needs most of the common ones and all of the hard-to-find dispensers. Have other collectibles to trade including Barbies, comics and gumcards. R. Yep; P.O. Box 590455; San Francisco, CA 94159.

What else does Mike Robertson collect? **Flip books**—those little animated booklets that seem to move when you flip the pages. New or old, rare or common, photo or line art—if I don't already have it, it's one that I want. Of course, **Kinder Eggs** are always welcome,

**Ad Deadline for  
the next issue is  
Wednesday,  
December 5.  
Use your free ad!**

as are **rare** Beach Boys items. I'M also interested in neat 3-D stuff. P.O. Box 606; Dripping Springs, TX 78620. Or give me a call at 512-858-7720; I always like to hear from you!

Have a very good Dopey, would like a Die-Cut Casper, Mary Poppins, Olive Oyl, or **Black** Black Lagoon. Ross Hartsough, 98 Bryn Mawr Rd., Winnipeg R3T 3P5, Canada. (204) 269-1022.

PEZ Wanted: Zombi, Brutus, Olive Oyl, Peter Pan, Snow White, Dopey. Some good traders. Write us today! Ned & Jill Russell; 3103 Lincoln Ave.; Alameda, CA 94501. 415-522-3037.

Canadian PEZ for trade (or sale). Included are: Baloo, King Louie, Mowgli, Dumbo, Practical Pig, Li'l Bad Wolf, Scrooge, Barney Bear, Droopy Dog, Dalmation, Chip, etc. Also have some "fake" PEZ, really known as Yummy dispensers in Scooby Doo, Parrot, Mouse and Grape Ape. Please write or call: Kathleen Eovino; 2505 Algonkin Trail; Manasquan, NJ 08736. 201-223-8023. There are still lots of PEZ I need.



# Back Issue Dungeon

The supply of back issues continues to dwindle! If you have missing issues in your O.P. collection, order NOW! None of these issues will be reprinted and photocopies will not be made (by me and I hope not by you). When these are gone, there won't be any more!

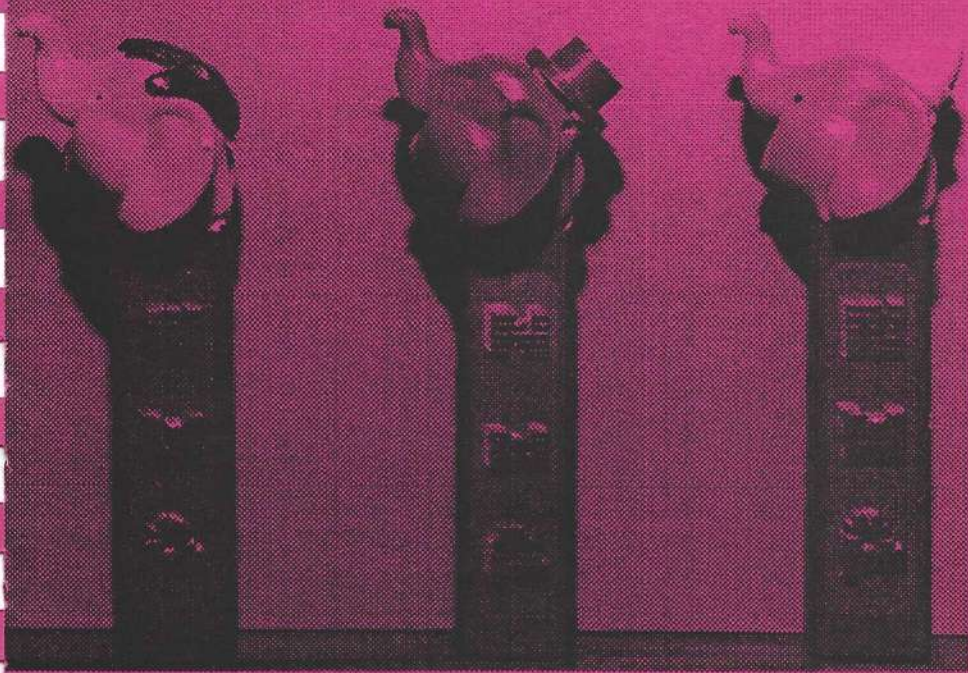
- Issue #1:** The debut issue that changed the reading habits of a nation! Issue number one introduced PEZ Gallery Collector Cards, Hot Shots, the PEZZANT Market, and other features which are now household words in all the strangest households. Also included is a look at PEZ Patents, the first PEZ Poll and a Crossword Pezzle. Fewer than ten copies left! Ten dollars each.
- Issue #2:** The legend continues, with a Dave Talsma cover, the Hall of Fame at the end of the year results and a Collector's Profile of Mike McClung. Also, the cartoon that only 3% of the readers "got"! This issue is in very limited supply and sells for seven dollars each.
- Issue #3** It's The Ultimate Guide to PEZ, the mind-blowing listing of 250 different types of PEZ complete with full descriptions of each. Mike McClung's Peter PEZ cover fronts the issue and his Hollywood PEZ fills the centerfold.
- Issue #4** Pictorial Guide to the Ultra-Rare PEZ, a profile of John McClung (who also contributes "PEZ from Hell"), our first and possibly last PEZ poem, the Star Wars PEZ Hoax and the usual other stuff. Four dollars each.
- Issue #5** A Roland Austin monster cover, a great article on the PEZ company today, a profile of Joan and Bernie Domino, a look at the Tick's quest for PEZ, lots of letters, and the usual insanity. Three dollars each.
- Issue #6** Dave Talsma provides a classic cover and is the subject of the Collector Profile, Joan Domino finds infinite uses for Santa Claus dispensers, chapter one of PEZ, Lies and Videotape, plus the first installments of Show-Offs and FINDZ. Three dollars each.

To order, send check or money order to:

**Mike Robertson**

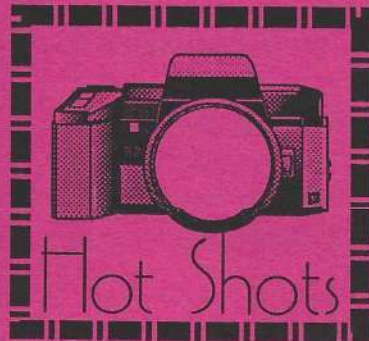
**P.O. Box 606**

**Dripping Springs, TX 78620**



Although most of the “remakes” of PEZ dispensers have involved licensed characters, there are some curious variations of other dispensers. For instance, the Elephant, one of the Circus series, seems an unlikely candidate for much variation. Most common is the Elephant shown in the middle, frequently found with an orange head, green tongue and blue, flat-topped round hat. Less common is the version with a Chico Marx-type hat, shown here at right, which is found in several other colors.

Perhaps the rarest of the Elephants is the one on the left, which seems to be wearing a wig of some sort. This one has a yellow face and the pachyderm's toupee is a reddish-brown. This may be a case of using up spare parts by the PEZ company, but I don't know of another dispenser which features a hair-do quite like this one. Any other variations?





Ah say theah,  
boy...Readin'  
thuh Optimistic  
PEZZIMIST will  
do ya a heap  
o' good! It's  
bettah than hot  
breakfast!