

April 1, 2003

Raw data: significa, insignifica, stats and facts; After hours: a guy's guide to what's hip and what's happening; Editorial

By Schaal, Betty

QUOTE

"You kiss an actor and you don't know what they're going to smell like. But you kiss a girl, she's going to smell good. And she's very soft. They are soft and they smell nice. Guys don't."

--JULIANNE MOORE

TESTY FANS

In a Harris poll, the percentage of Americans who feel that major league baseball players should be tested for steroids: 70. In a Gallup poll conducted the same month, percentage of fans who feel the same: 86.

CHECKS AND BALANCES

Number of Americans who have tax refunds waiting for them because the IRS hasn't been able to deliver their checks, usually because of incorrect addresses: 96,000. Amount of money gathering dust at the IRS: \$ 80 million.

LAND OF THE TURTLENECKS

Percentage of males throughout the world who are circumcised: 20. Percentage of males in the U.S. who are circumcised: 60.

BUILT FOR SPEED

According to Harbour and Associates, average number of hours required to build a vehicle at Nissan, the car manufacturer with the fastest U.S. assembly lines: 18. Number required to build a Honda, the company with the second-fastest U.S. assembly lines: 20. Number of hours required by GM, sixth-fastest: 26. By Ford, the seventh-fastest: 27.

ALL EMPLOYEES MUST WASH PITS

According to the Body Odor in the Workplace Survey, percentage of human resources managers who have spoken to an employee about his or her unpleasant body odor: 31.

MATH WHIZ

Number of hours it took a supercomputer under the direction of a Tokyo professor to calculate the value of pi to 1.24 trillion places: 400. Number of years it took to design the program for the computer to use in its calculation: 5.

ALUMINUM CAN'TS

According to a **Container Recycling Institute** report, the number of Boeing 737 jets that could have been built with the 759,625 tons of aluminum from cans Americans didn't recycle in 2001: 33,764.

COUCH-POTATO SKIN

In a study by the Center for Media and Public Affairs, average number of scenes with sexual content in the 50 top-grossing Hollywood films of 2000: 7. Average number of scenes with sexual content--per hour--on broadcast and cable television: 12.

WICCAN BELIEVE THAT

Percentage of Americans who believed in witches 10 years ago: 14. Percentage who believe in them today: 26.

ASSEMBLAGE

Approximate number of people who show up each year on the second Saturday in July at the Mugs Away tavern in Laguna Niguel, California, just 40 yards from the railroad tracks, to spend the whole day mooning Amtrak trains: 3000.

CELL DAMAGE

In 2001, number of highway accidents in California in which the driver who caused the crash was on a cell phone at the time: 4699. Number of deaths that resulted from these automobile accidents: 31.

RELATED ARTICLE: Fact of the month.

In 1966 the budget for Star Trek was \$ 100,000 per episode. Today, an episode of Star Trek: Enterprise costs \$ 5 million to produce.

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