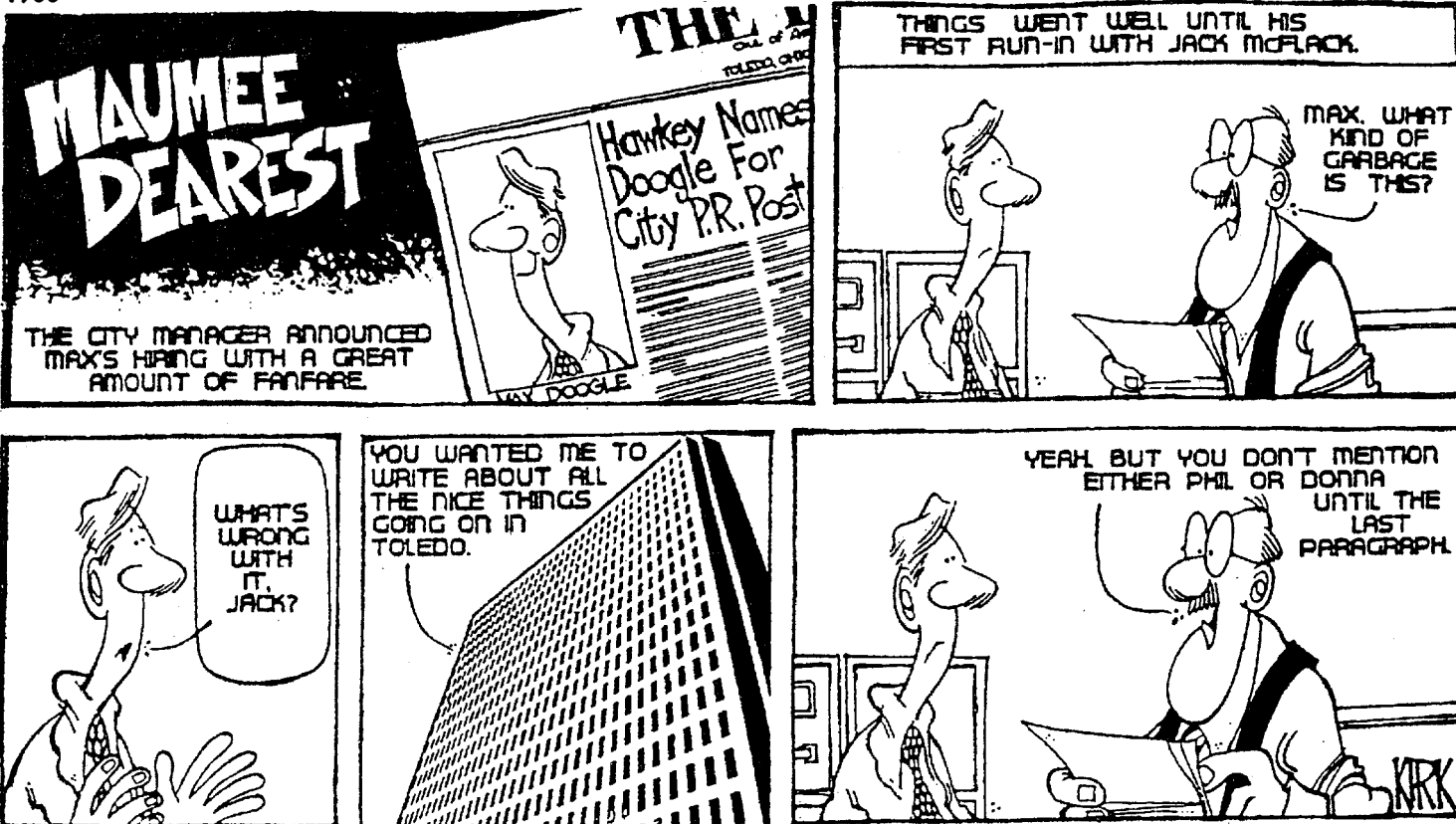


1988



20 YEARS OF MAUMEE DEAREST

It's hard to believe that Maumee Dearest is now 20 years old.

My editor at the time was Bernard Judy and I walked into his office and asked him if he'd be interested in running a comic strip on local politics. I showed him a sample of the strip (left) and the next thing I knew it was on the op-ed page for the next day.

I'm often asked why I called the strip Maumee Dearest if most of the action takes place in Toledo. That's when I explain that the strip is named after the Maumee River and not Maumee, Ohio.

In going over 20 years of strips, it's interesting to see that some things don't change. The glazed doughnut strip is as true today as it was when I drew it 16 years ago.

KIRK

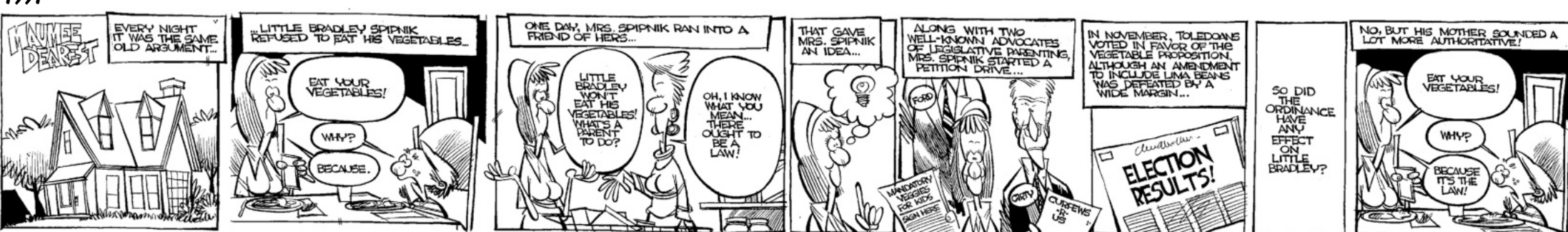
JACK McFLAK

Max Doogle was supposed to be the main character of the strip but Jack McFlak took over right from the start. His last name went from McFlak to McFlak early on. As a mid-level bureaucrat, he has been the confidant and comic foil for every mayor since Donna Owens. McFlak is based on a real person who shall remain nameless.

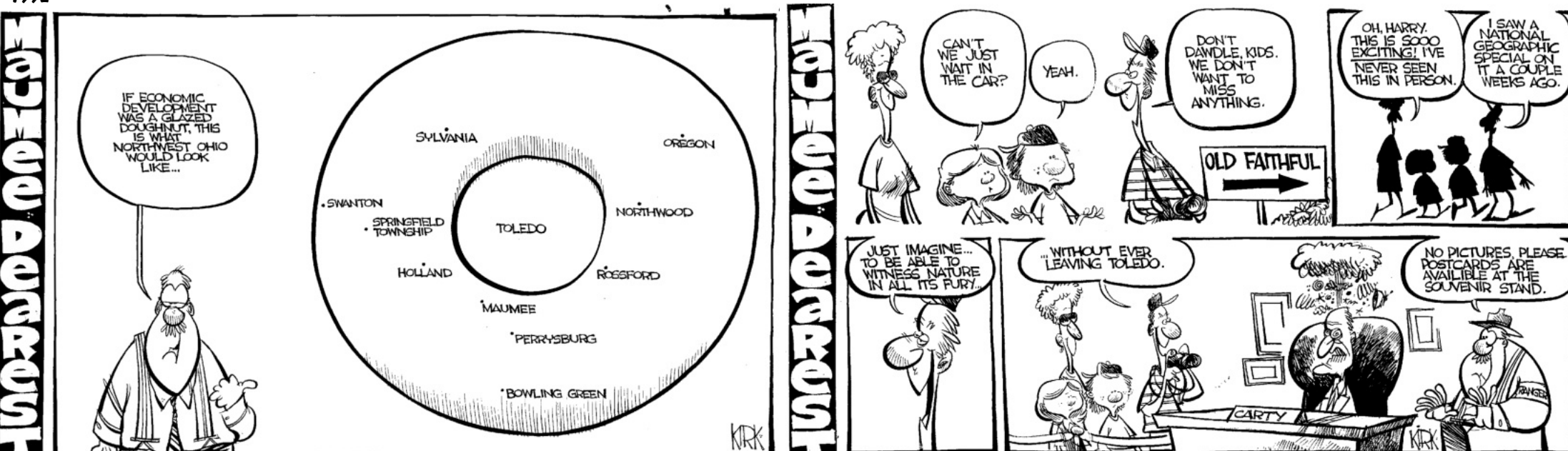
1991



1991



1992



1994



1995



2004



CARTY

When I draw Carty, I always draw one eye much larger than the other. This reflects his manic nature. Over the years, the bulging eye has grown in size. The eye in the background is always larger than the one in the foreground because it skews perspective--just like the man himself. The Carty strips are easy to draw. It only takes a gentle nudge to put the mayor on the express lane to crazytown.



2008

