

# OFF THE RECORD

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CROSSWORD

AND A
COLLECTABLE POSTER
FROM COLECTIVO COFFEE

## Exploring The Kid-friendly, Animated Voice-over Work Of Bob Uecker

By Matt Wild of Milwaukee Record

Milwaukee and Bob Uecker: name a more iconic duo. The ubiquitous "Mr. Baseball" is currently celebrating his 50th year behind the mic. But he's more than the voice of the Milwaukee Brewers—he is, in the words of DC superhero Cyborg, "a former professional baseball player who played six season in the majors before going on to have a successful career as a sportscaster and actor, starring in many iconic film and TV roles, including Harry Doyle in Major League and George Owens in Mr. Belvedere."

Wait, what? Yes, Uecker's acting career has brought him in contact with everyone from Charlie Sheen, Scott Bakula (in the truly awful Major League: Back To The Minors), AND an animated kids version of Cyborg. And Batman sidekick Robin. And some obnoxiously adorable puppies. Let's explore Bob Uecker's kid-friendly, animated voice-over work, shall we?

#### TEEN TITANS GO! - "BBRBDAY"

What happens when the Teen Titans are super stoked for Beast Boy's birthday party, but Robin wants them to go to HIS birthday party (even though it's not really his birthday)? The Boy Wonder sweetens the deal by inviting none other than Bob Uecker to his shindig. "Who's Bob Uecker?" asks Raven. "WHO'S BOB UECKER!" Cyborg exclaims, before running down Ueck's career highlights.



Yes, Uecker is all over this

2018 Teen Titans Go! episode, and he's brilliant. When Cyborg presses him for some Belvedere trivia, Uecker delivers the immortal line: "No, Kevin did not grow up to be Marilyn Manson. You're thinking of that nerd from Wonder Years." When Beast Boy brings a pony to his party, Robin counters by riding Uecker like a horse. ("It's in the contract," Ueck sighs.) And whven the Teen Titans blow Robin off, Uecker tries to cheer the little guy up by offering to take him out for frozen custard. Oh, and in the end he helps Robin splice his DNA with animal DNA "in an effort to become the ultimate party animal." Incredible.

#### PUPPY DOG PALS - "Take Me Out To The Pug Game"

If you have a child between the ages of 0 and 3, you're surely familiar with the toxically cute Puppy Dog Pals. It's the ultimate "just put something on so they'll shut up for 15 minutes" kind of kids show. It's also created by comedian Harland Williams, a.k.a. the "7 Minute Abs" guy from There's Something About Mary. Weird.

Anyway, Uecker is only heard-not seen-in this 2017 episode, yet he still makes an impression. "Hello baseball fans, and welcome to Teddy Peppercorn day!" Ueck says over the ballpark PA. You see, Bingo and Rolly have chased down their owner's prized Teddy Peppercorn baseball after it flew out the window and bounced around town, and now the elderly Teddy Peppercorn has signed the ball and knocked it out of the park, so the Puppy Dog Pals have to chase it down again and well, you should just watch it yourself. Or, on second thought, unless you have a 2-year-old, stay as far away from this gratingly lovable show as possible.

### \*AMERICAN VALUES CLUB CROSSWORD

"Leaves Unsettled"

by Kate Hawkins, edited by Ben Tausig and Wyna Liu

Difficulty level: •••••

#### **ACROSS**

- 1. Sheepskin boot brand
- 4. Certain French lover
- 8. "Freaks and Geeks" creator Paul
- 12. It may be split at dinner
- 13. Expose to too much light, as film
- 16. Curry who played Frank N. Furter
- 17. Known everywhere
- 18. Big and briny
- 20. It gets chewed up and spit out
- 21. One of many in a magazine
- 24. Green building rating system
- 27. Not std.
- 28. Clydesdale pace
- 30. I might be next to it
- 32. "I don't think so ..."
- 34. Modern puzzle adventure option
- 37. Saw by chance
- 39. Kind of rights that specifically allow silence
- 40. Fender guard, e.g.
- 42. Overflow (with)
- 43. Suffix for any cardinal direction
- 44. Fruit native to China
- 45. Travel bag brand (please buy them so we can stop cluing this with reference to the Irish carrier)
- 46. Forever and a day
- 48 Iconic
- 53. School involvement gp.
- 55. Pool toy shaped like a flamingo or unicorn, perhaps
- 56. Healthy lunch option, and this puzzle's theme
- 61. Na+, e.g.
- 62. Academic, as it were
- 63. Famous last name in baseball and crosswords
- 64. School for which a collar and tie are named
- 65. Marie Antoinette's head
- 66. Org. with legal authority to monitor all domestic phone calls

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64						65						66		

#### DOWN

- 1, "Gimme five!"
- 2. Insurance company with a spokesgecko
- 3. Like some overtime goals
- 4. Nice to have?
- 5. Pharmaceutical giant named for its founder
- 6. How most ftf interactions take place
- 7. Roush who got into the Hall of Fame with just 68 career home runs
- 8. Lesbian who might struggle to be read as queer
- 9. Rating system for chess players and basketball teams
- 10. Note for short people?
- 11. Phone service that works even on airplane mode, for short
- 13. Pet parent, by another name
- 14. D-H link
- 15. Athlete who uses a springboard
- 19. Nimble and adept
- 22, And so on: Abbr.
- 23. Units of sugar, or nickname for one who might call you "sugar"

- 25. Innocence Project victory
- 26. LED part
- 29. Ron Howard's role on "The Andy Griffith Show"
- 31. Mosque leader
- 32. Goad
- 33. Late "Transparent" matriarch
- 34. Raison d'\_\_
- 35. L.A.'s area
- 36. Like some decent bonds
- 38. Limewire predecessor
- 41. "Which BuzzFeed quiz \_\_\_\_ you?" (highly meta Slate quiz title)
- 45. Battery terminal
- 47. Scanner maker
- 49. F sharp equivalent
- 50. Cheer up and then some
- 51. Laugh attacks
- 52. Meddler
- 54. Do some simple math
- 56. Election day, in the U.S.: Abbr.
- 57. Elect (to)
- 58. Airport with a BART connection
- 59. Live concert unit
- 60. Big name in used books

