

MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

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Monday, March 16, 2015 | 50 Cents

'He was a real leader'



Charles "Charlie" Walker. Courtesy Photo

Walker remembered as father, leader and friend

BY MICHELLE BATES | MICHELLE@PRESS-HERALD.COM

Charlie Walker is many things to many people, but to Webster Parish, he was considered a true leader.

Col. Carl Thompson (Ret.), recalls Walker's drive to get things done. During his time working at Camp Minden, Walker was instrumental in helping him get roads repaired. Thompson says when he started attending police jury meetings, he had a staff of two and next to no budget.

"He helped me with many situations out at Camp Minden," Thompson said. "Charlie just embraced me and took me in. When

the Youth Challenge Program was first established at Camp Minden, those main streets where they (cadets) march from their barracks to the dining facility had pot-holes, and it was dangerous. When they were marching, they were looking straight ahead and they would step in those pot-holes and turn their ankles. Charlie sent his road crew out there and fixed those pot-holes."

Walker was instrumental in many other things as well, such as securing funding to aid in upgrading water systems, not just in his district, but in the parish as well. He was looked upon as a fair man and representing his constituents well.

His son, Roger Walker, remembers him as a great father.

"Whatever your idea of a good father is, that was my dad," he said. "He was understanding, kind and always tried to see the good in everybody. What you saw with him is what you got. He called himself just a good ole country boy from Doyline.

"He was a problem solver and he wanted to work with everybody, not just his dis-

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Man found dead in Walmart parking lot

Police: Medical issue suspected as cause

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A Minden man was found dead in the parking lot of Walmart Supercenter Saturday afternoon.

Police Chief Steve Cropper says Chris Hunter was found in a van, but foul play does not seem to be apparent.

"We don't know what he died of," Cropper said. "We're thinking it's something medical."

According to the preliminary investigation, Cropper said Hunter had breakfast with his girlfriend that morning and had a meeting in Arcadia around 9 or 10 a.m. but never showed up. Cropper says Hunter did some work for funeral homes but was not sure which one; however, it was an employee of Rose-Neath who found him.

At this time, his death is still under investigation. Hunter's remains have been sent to Little Rock, Arkansas for autopsy.

DOWNTOWN

More changes made to downtown legislation

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More changes have been made in wording that will amend legislation describing the Minden's Downtown Development District Commission.

According to the state law, passed in 1990, "The commission shall be composed of seven members, all of whom shall be qualified voters of the city of Minden, and shall have their principal place of business or profession in, or own property in, the Downtown Development District."

District D Councilman Mike Toland requested the change in verbiage.

"I don't like the language they previously had," Toland said. "I think we should



TOLAND

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specht

Vol. 46 No. 183



WEATHER TOMORROW'S OUTLOOK



81
HIGH

58
LOW

Mostly sunny early then increasing cloudiness later in the day. A stray shower or thunderstorm is possible.

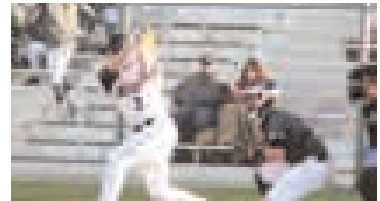
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HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL
Lakeside defeats
Minden High **PAGE 6**





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RAMP MINISTRY

Sibley UMC reaches milestone with 200 ramps

MICHELLE BATES
michelle@press-herald.com

“The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the broken-hearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives. And the opening of the prison to those who are bound to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord. And the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn,” Isaiah 6:1-2

The “Ramp Up!” program at Sibley United Methodist Church is reaching a milestone as volunteers in the ministry built its 200th ramp in Houghton Saturday.

“We just think it’s great,” Tracy Lewis, grandmother of the ramp recipient, said.

Liam Lewis, 9 months old, suffers from chronic lung disease. He was born prematurely, weighing in at one pound, 12 ounces. Because of this, his lungs are under-developed and must stay on oxygen 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Liam’s father, William Lewis, expressed his thanks to those who built the ramp.

“It’s a big help,” he said. “It really is.”

With the ramp, the Lewis family will be able to transport Liam’s oxygen tanks and other equipment from the house to their vehicle more easily.

“It’s a testament to God to not do what you want to, but do what God wants you to do,” the Rev. Milton Getz said.

Getz was the pastor of Sibley UMC until June of last year. Current pastor, the Rev. Stephanie Kidd, says for her, this goes back to Isaiah 6:1-2.

“It’s a blessing to partner with the Sibley church, and to me, this ministry is about being able to give them the freedom to live outside of their home,” she said. “The ramp ministry is freeing those in captivity due to mobility issues.”

This ministry came to be in 2007 when a group of men from North Highlands United Methodist Church gave one time instruction to volunteers from Sibley UMC.

“From then to date, we have completed 198 ramps for people in need,” Lory White, church member, said. “The majority of our ramp projects have been in Webster, Bienville and Claiborne parishes, but we have reached out to a 60-mile radius of Sibley which encompasses Desoto, Natchitoches, Jackson, Lincoln, Caddo and Bossier parishes.”

“We get such a blessing out of it,” Tommy O’Rear, volunteer and church member, said. “One hundred percent of the money raised goes back into building ramps. This is the Lord’s work.”

O’Rear says the ministry furnishes all the labor and materials at no cost to the homeowner. The cost to build a ramp is roughly \$15 per square foot. All the ramps built meet regulations of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Among the first ramps built, White says it was for



Byreatha Smith, 93, of Doyline, who still lives at home. In 2014, roughly 38 ramps were built, with about 12 so far this year.

Many of the volunteers who build these ramps are aged 60 and older, some in their 80s.

“We attribute the success of our ministry to the fact that we have no administrative costs, very dedicated volunteers from our church, other church-

es, IP Mill (Mansfield Mill) employees, donations and fundraisers,” White said.

“We are well known for ramp building area-wide, with requests coming from word of mouth, home health nurses, therapists, the Council on Aging, social workers and others. There being a continued need for the ramps, it is our desire to expand our ministry as much as possible, thereby helping to ful-

fill an ever growing need.”

Mission Statement: “The great aim that we have in view for our continuing ministry is to provide as many quality handicap ramps as possible for the mobility impaired without regard to race, creed or color, for recipients who are unable to walk steps, but can use a ramp with a walker, others use manual wheel-chairs or scooter and elec-

tric or motorized chair. Our ramps are built to ADA specs which make them very safe, thereby enhancing the quality of life for those using them.”

To donate, or find out more about the ministry, call Sibley UMC at 377-0805. The church is located at 403 South Main Street in Sibley.

DOWNTOWN

Continued from page 1

include people who own a business in the downtown district. I think they should be able to be on the board. They may not vote in the city of Minden, but they pay taxes, they own it and I think they should have a voice in what this board does.”

Commission members who are nominated by the mayor, must be approved by the council, according to changes in the legislation. Once the commission is chosen, those members can nominate for subcommittees those who are not required to meet the same criteria.

“If we, as a council, do our jobs of being careful when we choose people to be on there, we can be sure they will fit the description,” Toland said.

“We have authority over every single person that’s put on that board. I don’t think we should restrict it.”

With all present, members of the Minden City Council voted unanimously in special session Friday to change the wording to read “The commission shall be composed of seven members, all of whom shall be qualified voters of the city of Minden, or, hold a majority interest in business or property in the Downtown Development District.”

Monday, March 9, all seven members resigned from the commission, leaving the council with a clean slate.

Mayor Tommy Davis said in order to form the new commission, “I think we could have input from the council, input from businesses downtown and citizens in Minden.

“I think we should open it up to the public,” he continued. “Ultimately, it’s going to be left up to the

mayor to recommend them and the council to select them.”

Rep. Gene Reynolds, D-Minden, has agreed to present the bill in the upcoming legislative session that begins April 13. He says he feels the adjustment in the language is a wise move.

“That is the portion of the language I had an issue with,” Reynolds said. “My job is not to dictate to the city. My job is to assist them in any way I can, but I feel like it’s vital to the continued growth of downtown.”

Reynolds says he will hand deliver the bill to the head of the Governmental Affairs Committee. It will then be required to pass the House and Senate and await the governor’s signature before it becomes law.

“I’m going to talk to the committee chairman and tell him I need it passed as

quickly as possible,” Reynolds said. “I see no problem with it passing all the way.”

Davis said before the current law came under fire, he was close to hiring a new Downtown Development Director to replace Pattie Odom, who was fired in December.

“We can’t hire a director or appoint a commission until the legislature passes this,” Davis said. “We were about ready to hire somebody when all this came down. Now, we will have to go back and revisit this. Hiring a director and appointing a commission will probably both happen about the same time.”

Until that happens, downtown activities will continue without a director or commission. Davis says city employees will be called on to help.

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happy birthday

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WALKER

Continued from page 1

trict, but all of Webster Parish,” he continued. “When he first went on the jury, he told me it was like North and South, and they seemed to pull one way or the other. His thing was ‘we’re Webster Parish, and we have to work with everybody.’”

One of those problems he was instrumental in handling was when Bayou Dorcheat Correctional Center first opened. A huge dispute came to the jury’s table as then-Sheriff Ted Riser tried to get them to raise how much the police jury was paying for parish prisoners. After many meetings, the jury and Riser finally agreed on a price, but when Riser moved the prisoners from

Penal Farm to BDCC, damage was inflicted on the facilities at the Penal Farm, rendering it unusable.

Josh Beavers, former publisher of the Minden Press-Herald, says Walker handled the situation fairly.

“One of the first people I met when I moved to Minden was Charlie Walker,” he said. “I covered the police jury for years while he was president. There

were many controversial topics the jury tackled back then. Perhaps the most memorable was the penal farm lawsuit battle between the jury and Riser. Through all of the turmoil, I never felt like Mr. Walker was trying to be subversive. He was always honest, always open. He respected me and I respected him. He became my friend, and I will never forget him.”

Roger Walker says his

dad served the police jury with great respect and humility.

“One person was no more important than another,” he said. “He would give you his ear just as quick as he would someone else.”

Charlie and his wife Dorothy were married for nearly 65 years, his son says. They were high school sweethearts and married in 1950. He moved

back to Webster Parish following a stint in the military and worked for Pack-a-Sack (now 7-Eleven) and retired after 33 years.

He served as the juror for district 12 for 21 years and as president for 12.

He is survived by his wife, two sons, Roger and Russell Walker, five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

He was 83.

OBITUARIES

Betty Wall Samuel

A celebration of the life of Betty W. Samuel will be at 2 p.m., Wednesday, March 18, 2015, at Lakeview United Methodist Church in Minden. Family will receive visitors at Rose-Neath Funeral Home from 5 until 7 p.m., Tuesday, March 17.

Betty passed away Friday, March 13, 2015, at her home in Minden. She was born Nov. 20, 1923, in Shreveport. She was preceded in death by her parents, Carl Wall and Mae Gibbs Wall Dawson; her sisters, Patty Clare Wall and Vada Gates and husband, Del; husbands, Brooks Stein and S.B. Samuel Jr.; and son, Tim Samuel.

She leaves behind her sister, Pattie Dawson; daughter, Martha Brooks Stein; son, Dawson Samuel and wife, Sandra Brown Samuel; daughter-in-law, Sandra Skinner Samuel Futch and husband, Tom; grandchildren, Maegan Cole and husband, Aaron, Will Samuel, Taylor Brown, and Katie Samuel; niece, Dina Steward and husband, Dennis; nephew, Bob McDonald and wife, Becky; and great-grandchildren, Kennedie Cole and Kerrigan Cole; along with many cousins and other family.

Betty was a strong woman who loved her family and raised them to be inde-

pendent adults. Along with raising a family, she had many vocations in her life; including working on the line at the Shell Plant (LAAP), being a secretary and bookkeeper and selling real estate. Betty worked for Nedra T. Kelly Real Estate Agency for years, and she and Nedra became life-long friends.

Betty was active in the community. She was a founding member of Lakeview Methodist Church. She also headed the committee that organized Minden’s “Cleanest City in the South” campaign. She was a founding member of Minden Tennis and Aquatic Club, working with close friend, Sonny Taylor. Her love of swimming lasted her whole life, and she even built a pool in her yard, which she enjoyed until she was 90 years old.

Betty loved gardening and working in her yard and even competed in floral design competitions. She loved riding horses, bird watching and cats.

Mostly, she loved her family. She suffered through the loss of one son, but reveled in the life of her other children. She loved to watch her grandchildren compete in sports, dance and life. In her later years it became difficult to get out of her house, but she still followed their activities as much as possible. She will be missed by those she left behind, but we rejoice in knowing that she is no longer in pain and now walks the streets of Heaven with all those who preceded her.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in Betty’s name to whatever cause is dear to the heart of the donor.

Charles R. ‘Hawk’ Walker Sr.

Funeral services for Charles R. “Hawk” Walker Sr. will be at 2 p.m., Tuesday, March 17, 2015, at Rose-Neath Funeral Home Chapel in Minden, with his nephew, David Bush and the Rev. Gevan Spinney officiating. Interment will follow at Doyline Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 5 until 8 p.m. Monday, March 16, 2015, at Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden.

Charles was born March 30, 1931, in Hall Summit and entered into rest March 14, 2015, in Bossier City. He retired from Pak-a-Sak/Southland Corporation, was past president and served on the board of Webster Parish Police Jury for more than 20 years and served his country proudly in the United States Air Force.

He was preceded in death by his parents, James C. “Delas” and Lillian Walker;

son, Rand Walker; grandson, Maddox Walker; and brother, Jimmy Walker.

He is survived by his wife, Dorthy M. Walker of Doyline; sons, Charles Roger Walker Jr. and wife, Annette of Minden and Russell Glen Walker of Bossier City; sisters, Martha Finklea of Bossier City and Katherine Bush and husband, Ken of Bossier City; brother, W.L. Walker of Longview, Texas; five grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be grandchildren, Clay Walker, Brad Walker, Glen Walker and Stacy Walker Winn and nephews, Keith Walker Bush, Kevin Walker, Jeff Walker and Tony Walker.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Doyline Cemetery Association.



SAMUEL



WALKER

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WEBSTER PARISH

READERS' CHOICE AWARDS 2015

Everyone has an opinion and now it's time to give yours. Vote for your favorite business in Webster Parish! The winners will be announced in the Readers' Choice edition on April 17, 2015. You may drop the ballot off at the Minden Press-Herald office at 203 Gleason Street in Minden or mail it to the Minden Press-Herald, P.O. Box 1339, Minden, LA 71058. Only one ballot per person will be permitted. No reproductions or faxes will be accepted.

Name: _____ Telephone number: _____

*Favorite Restaurant _____

Deadline for entries is Friday, March 31, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.

One winner will be drawn from the ballots received and will win DINNER FOR TWO from the restaurant voted most favorite OR \$50

Favorite Auto Body Shop

Favorite Manufactured Home Dealer

Favorite Bakery

Favorite Lawyer

Favorite Buffet Restaurant

Favorite Breakfast Restaurant

Favorite Barber Shop

Favorite Beauty Shop

Favorite Bank

Favorite C.P.A.

Favorite Chicken

Favorite Ambulance Service

Favorite Heating & Air Provider

Favorite Shoe Store

Favorite Casino

Favorite Car Wash/Detail

Favorite Real Estate Office

Favorite Tuxedo Rental

Favorite Tanning Salon

Favorite Pawn Shop

Favorite Funeral Home

Favorite Dentist

Favorite Apartment Complex

Favorite Auto Parts Store

Favorite Drive Thru Restaurant

Favorite Electrician

Favorite Elementary School

Favorite NEW Auto Dealer

Favorite USED Auto Dealer

Favorite Florist

Favorite Evening Meal Restaurant

Favorite Furniture Store

Favorite Gas Station

Favorite Gift Shop (Non-Florist)

Favorite Principal

Favorite Fitness Center

Favorite Seafood Restaurant

Favorite School Teacher

Favorite Salad Bar

Favorite NEW Vehicle Salesperson

Favorite Pediatrician

Favorite Grocery Store

Favorite Golf Course in Area

Favorite Hardware Store

Favorite Health Care Provider

Favorite High School

Favorite Homebuilder/Contractor

Favorite Hotel/Motel

Favorite Insurance Agent

Favorite Lawn Equipment Dealer

Favorite Jeweler

Favorite Landscaping/Lawn Care Provider

Favorite Eye Care Provider

Favorite Liquor Store

Favorite Lunch Location

Favorite Middle School

Favorite Appliance Store

Favorite USED Vehicle Salesperson

Favorite Tire Store

Favorite Dance School

Favorite Veterinarian

Favorite Nursing Home

Favorite Mechanic

Favorite Mexican Restaurant

Favorite Men's Apparel Provider

Favorite Daycare Provider

Favorite Glass Shop (not eyewear)

Favorite Oil Change Location

Favorite Pharmacy

Favorite Pet Groomer

Favorite Pest Control Provider

Favorite Photographer

Favorite Pizza Restaurant

Favorite Physician/Surgeon

Favorite Plumber

Favorite Public Official

Favorite Women's Apparel Provider

Favorite Floor Covering Provider

Favorite Tax Preparer

Favorite Customer Service (any business)

OPINION

First Place: 2012 Best Editorial Page, Louisiana Press Association

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PERSPECTIVE

Cohabiting ... with Children

I KNOW A WOMAN. Works like a dog. She's a loving mother, raising a lovable boy. She's also a good businesswoman, running a successful salon.

But she's not married to the father, though he lives with her ... year after year. As for work, he does a little bit of this and a little bit of that. She pays most of the bills and scrounges for child care. His parents, meanwhile, have a grandkid to play with.

Cohabiting with children is a growing trend among American families, particularly for whites and Hispanics. It now accounts for 59 percent of births outside marriage, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Call me old-fashioned, but for most working women, shacking up with the father of their kids is a life of unfair drudgery.

In many cases, it is more unfair than single motherhood. In addition to child care, the cohabiting woman is burdened with man care. She's providing the comforts of home, hearth and family. He, meanwhile, has the freedom to move on to new pastures without even having to call a lawyer.

Calm down, will ya? OK, I'm calm.

More than a quarter of American children are now being born to couples living together without marriage. This is the highest rate ever and double what it was a decade ago.

(You'll never guess which state has the highest percentage of cohabiting parents. South Dakota, at 46 percent.)

Although this sounds like a stabler home life for children than the single-parent household, it's only marginally so, The Wall Street Journal reports. Interestingly, the share of children being born out of wedlock without a father at home has shrunk a little.

Jane Waldfogel, who teaches social work at Columbia University, told the Journal that for kids, the instability and uncertainty of living with cohabiting parents "is in some ways closer to single parenthood than it is to marriage."

Cohabiting parents can break up so much more easily than married ones.

No doubt some couples choose this arrangement specifically to keep that door ajar — the well-being of children no longer serving as a lock.

The frequent excuse is that Mom and Dad aren't financially and emotionally ready to get married. (But they are financially and emotionally ready to have children, right?) Many of our longest-lasting marriages were embarked upon by couples who were dead broke, but what did they know?

We understand, this is the land of countless variation. I know two old hippies who have been living together for decades, devoted to each other and their children, and sharing the work. They are a cohabiting model but the exception, according to sociologists.

There are many marriages in which all the heavy lifting falls on her. And somewhere in America there is a cohabiting father who performs all the child rearing, breadwinning and floor sweeping while the lady's at home doing her nails.

Sometimes it's the mother who declares her desire not to be tied down to a guy — though that often sounds like bravado. The great majority of Americans say they want marriage. In the bar pick-up culture, the mother with children at home is a more complicated prospect than the father going back to his bachelor pad.

As expected, the higher you move up the economic and educational ladder the stronger the insistence on getting married before having children. The financial advantage marriage confers on these families may not be the only reason for America's widening wealth gap, but it's a significant one.

Cohabitation with children may look similar to marriage with children, but it's usually a weak substitute. Expect more of it.

Follow Froma Harrop on Twitter @FromaHarrop. She can be reached at fharrop@gmail.com.



FROMA HARROP

PERSPECTIVE

A student aid Bill of Rights

EARLIER THIS WEEK, I visited with students at Georgia Tech to talk about the importance of higher education in the new economy, and how we can make it more affordable.

In an economy increasingly built on innovation, the most important skill you can sell is your knowledge. That's why higher education is, more than ever, the surest ticket to the middle class.

But just when it's never been more important, it's also never been more expensive. The average undergrad who borrows to pay for college ends up graduating with about \$28,000 in student loan debt.

That's why my Administration has worked hard to make college more affordable. We expanded tax credits and Pell Grants, enacted the largest reform to student loan programs in history, and fought to keep interest rates on student loans low.

We've acted to let millions of graduates cap loan payments at 10 percent of their income, so they don't have to choose between paying the rent and paying back their debt. I've sent Congress my plan to bring the cost of community college down to

zero — because two years of higher education should be as free and universal as high school is today.

But all of us — elected officials, universities, business leaders — everybody — needs to do more to bring down college costs. Which is why this week, I unveiled another way that we can help more Americans afford college.

It doesn't involve any new spending or bureaucracy. It's a simple declaration of values — what I call a Student Aid Bill of Rights. It says that every student deserves access to a quality, affordable education.

Every student should be able to access the resources to pay for college. Every borrower has the right to an affordable repayment plan. And every borrower has the right to quality customer service, reliable information, and fair treatment, even if they struggle to repay their loans.



BARACK OBAMA

That's it. Just a few simple principles. But if we all rally around these principles, there's a lot that colleges, lenders, and the people you sent to Washington and to your state legislatures can do to realize them across the country.

So if you believe in a Student Aid Bill of Rights that will help more Americans pay for a quality education, I'm asking you to visit WhiteHouse.gov/CollegeOpportunity. Sign your name to this declaration. Tell your families, and your friends, and fellow students.

I'm going to ask Members of Congress, and lenders, and as many business leaders as I can find. Because making sure that students aren't saddled with debt before they even get started in life is in all our interests.

In America, a higher education cannot be a privilege reserved for only the few. It has to be available to everybody who's willing to work for it.

Barack Obama's weekly address runs every Monday in the Minden Press-Herald.

EDITORIAL ROUNDUP

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette on Republican senators' letter to Iranian leader:

The letter sent Monday by 47 Republican senators to Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, warning him not to sign an agreement with major nations limiting his country's nuclear program, was damaging to America's role in the world.

This was the second venture in six days into foreign affairs by Republicans in Congress, which is distinguishing itself as the most dysfunctional branch of the U.S. government. The previous play was the March 3 address to Congress by Israeli Prime

Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, whose Likud party will be a contestant in Israeli elections on March 17. Mr. Netanyahu's appearance was set up by an invitation from House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio.

The letter to the ayatollah, which cautioned that the next president could revoke the agreement and that Congress could modify it, was crafted by Tom Cotton, a freshman senator from Arkansas. It was signed by all but seven of the Republicans' Senate majority and no Democrats. Pennsylvania Sen. Pat Toomey was one of the signers.

It is hard to understand the senators' motivation as anything but a partisan attempt to embarrass President Barack Obama. They, and perhaps some Israelis, may have been seeking to draw on the furor surrounding the Netanyahu speech.

The impact on America's standing

as a negotiator in determining the Iran accord has to be negative. The Iranians say they see the letter as just propaganda. If there is an agreement, Mr. Obama can move forward on it and remove U.S. economic sanctions on Iran, at least temporarily, without Senate approval.

America's partners in the talks are among the world's most important nations — China, France, Germany, Russia and the United Kingdom. They can only be appalled at seeing Secretary of State John Kerry and the president, who are charged with making the nation's foreign policy, hit from behind by one house of the federal legislature.

The senators who signed the letter should be ashamed.

Read it online: <http://www.post-gazette.com>

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WEBSTER PARISH'S NEWS SOURCE

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THE MINDEN PRESS-HERALD is published Monday through Friday afternoon by Specht Newspapers, Inc. at 203 Gleason Street, Minden, Louisiana 71055. Telephone 377-1866. Entered as Periodicals at the Post Office as Minden Press-Herald, P.O. Box 1339, Minden LA 71058-1339. Subscription rate: In-parish home delivery \$11 per month; \$33 per three months; \$66 per six months; \$99 per nine months and \$132 per year. Out-of-parish mail delivery is \$14.50 per month; \$43.50 per three months; \$87 per six months; \$130.50 per nine months and \$174 per year. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Minden Press-Herald, P.O. Box 1339, Minden, LA 71058-1339.

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COMMUNITY

GLENBROOK SCHOOL NEWS



On Fat Tuesday, the Krewe of Glenbrook School rolled through the school's campus led by the royalty of second grade. Below, kindergarten students anxiously await the "parade" and beads. At left, Pastor Brian Mercer from First United Methodist Church demonstrates the burning of palm leaves that will later become the ashes for Ash Wednesday. Courtesy photos



Friday, March 6 six of Glenbrook's brightest junior high science students attended the District Science Fair in Shreveport. Attending are Faith Earnhardt,, front row from left, Evie Brasher and Piper Mealey; back row from left, Kayley Harper, Darbi Walker, Catherine Chumley, and Aaron Rhodes. Earnhardt earned a first place medal in Plant Science, Evie Brasher earned a third place in Health and Medical Science and Aaron Rhodes earned a third place spot in Computer Science. Courtesy photo

Celebrate your wedding, engagement or anniversary with Webster Parish

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Around Town

Thursday, March 19

Bistineau Task Force will meet at 10:15 a.m. at the Webster Parish Courthouse. Rep. Gene Reynolds will be there to discuss new legislation that could help with funding and Mike Woods, Director of Inland Fisheries, LDWF will be discussing a 2015 management plan for the lake. Jeff Sibley, LDWF will provide an update on Lake Bistineau. Questions or discussion topics can be submitted in advance at btf@trailblazer.org or 318-255-3554.

Adult Christian Education Class from 6:30 until 8 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 1107 Broadway. Topic for fifth week: Jesus in Jerusalem (Mark 11:1-13:37).

Saturday, March 21

The Southern Plainsmen from Hornbeck will be in concert at Ringgold First United Methodist Church at 6 p.m. The concert will be free but a loving offering will be taken.

Sunday, March 22

Men and Women Day Program at Hopewell Baptist Church in Dubberly will begin at 2:30 p.m., presided by Minister Charlie West. Guest speakers will be Sister Norma J. Baker of King Solomon Baptist Church in Sibley and Deacon Wesley Crawford of St. Rest Baptist Church.

Monday, March 23- Wednesday, March 25

Annual Spring Youth-Led Revival at Growing Valley Missionary Baptist Church, 1686 Fuller Road, will begin at 7 p.m. nightly. Guest Evangelist is Youth Minister Kendrick Golatt of Morning Star Baptist Church, Shreveport. Everyone is invited.

Thursday, March 26

Adult Christian Education Class from 6:30 until 8 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 1107 Broadway. Topic for sixth week: The Passion, Death and Resurrection of Christ (Mark 14:1-16:8).

Saturday, March 28

Lakeside High School yearbook staff presents its annual Elementary Beauty Pageant at 3 p.m. in Lakeside's Jr. High gymnasium.

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SPORTS

SPORTS briefs

LSU FOOTBALL

Miles says edge to Harris in first spring scrimmage

Give Brandon Harris the nod in this one. The sophomore quarterback had the edge in LSU's first scrimmage of spring practice, coach Les Miles said.

Harris and junior Anthony Jennings waged their first on-field battle for the starting quarterback job in a 100-play scrimmage in Tiger Stadium on Saturday. Splitting first-team reps evenly, Harris threw two touchdown passes to Jennings' one, but he also threw the only interception.

"Might give (Harris) the edge today," Miles said in a post-scrimmage address to reporters.

The scrimmage was closed to the public and media. Statistics were not provided.

Miles said his quarterbacks are "coming" and suggested that the offense has made a few changes from last season — something meant to help the QBs. In regard to a run/pass audible, Miles said an assistant coach "many times" can call the audible for the quarterback.

The coach suggested it's a new wrinkle in the offense.

"It will be interesting to see if it helps him more or hinders him," Miles said.

Another possible change: LSU went more up-tempo.

"I think our tempo is a little faster," he said. "I think our guys enjoy a little faster tempo. Quarterbacks are coming, and I think the offense is helping them come."

NBA

Davis posts huge numbers in loss to Nuggets

The New Orleans Pelicans' futility this season, in which they sit a game out of the playoff picture with a month to play, was perhaps illustrated best by Anthony Davis' performance on Sunday night.

Davis played with historic urgency and abandon. Yet the Pelicans lost 118-111 in double overtime to the visiting Denver Nuggets.

Davis, according to the Pelicans and the Elias Sports Bureau, became the first player since blocks were recorded -- in at least 30 seasons -- to have at least 36 points, 14 rebounds, nine blocks and seven assists in an NBA game.

Davis also became the second player in NBA history to score more than 30 points, grab more than 10 rebounds, block eight shots and record seven assists, which Hall of Famer David Robinson did twice.

"It's a tough loss, especially in the position we're in," Davis said. "We have to move on and get ready for our next game."

Davis scored six of his points in the first overtime, but missed his only two shots of the final extra session -- both jumpers -- and was unable to get past Nuggets counterpart Kenneth Faried for opportunities inside.

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

TIDE, WARRIORS IN ACTION



BLAKE BRANCH

blake@press-herald.com

The Minden Crimson Tide and Lakeside Warriors were both in action on Sunday trying to make up for lost time on the diamond.

The Lakeside Tournament that was originally scheduled for March 12 - March 14 had to be pushed back to a Sunday doubleheader.

The Crimson Tide squared off with the Sterlington High School Panthers, while Lakeside met up with the Griffins of North DeSoto, all leading up to the nightcap between the Crimson Tide and Warriors.

Minden vs. Sterlington

In the first game for Minden, the Tide defeated the Panthers from Sterlington, 2-1 in eight innings.

The Tide and Panthers were neck and neck for the duration of this contest, as pitching dominated the day.

The Sterlington duo of Luke Fluitt and Ross Lambert limited Minden to just four hits for the game, but Minden's Trace Francis was even better, tossing seven innings of one-hit baseball, while striking out seven and allowing just one



Press-Herald Photo/Blake Branch

run.

The first three innings were a scoreless tie between the two teams, before the Crimson Tide got on the board with a Jay Beene RBI in the fourth, scoring Gunner Stephens.

Two innings later, Sterlington tied the game at 1-1 in the sixth, as the two teams went quietly in the seventh and advanced to the extra frame.

In the eighth, Gunner

Stephens scored on a throwing error to give the Tide the game.

Gavin Smith pitched the final inning for the Tide to preserve the win.

Lakeside vs. North DeSoto

The Lakeside Warriors dropped their first game of the day to the North DeSoto Griffins, 5-1.

The Warriors had a tough time at the plate, mustering only five hits

against the Griffins starting pitcher, Matt Ramsey.

The Griffins scored four of their five runs in the top of the first inning and Lakeside never recovered.

The Warriors were able to get on the board in the third inning to make it 4-1, but the Griffins answered right back in the fourth to make it 5-1, where it would stay.

Brayden Jones went 2-3 with a double and single



for the Warriors, followed by Logan Clark, Coulson White and Cameron Gray, all with singles.

Luke Griffith took the loss on the mound for Lakeside.

Minden vs. Lakeside

The Crimson Tide and Warriors met up in the finale, with the Warriors playing much better in this one, getting the better of the Tide in a 8-0 win.

Lakeside collected 12 hits, 10 of which came against starter Austin Keough who blanked the Warriors in their last contest with the Tide.

Things were much different this time around.

The Tide could only manage four hits against Lakeside's starter Cameron Gray.

Gray was excellent in this one, going all seven innings and striking out 11 batters and allowing just four hits.

Josh Prince was big at the plate for Lakeside, going 3-4 with three singles and a pair of RBI. Luke Griffith and Logan Clark had identical days, both finishing 2-3 with a double, single and an RBI.

Peyton Gray, Gavin Smith, Jay Beene and Matt Eskew collected the only hits for the Crimson Tide.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

LSU makes big dance, will face Wolfpack



BATON ROUGE — The LSU men's basketball team will make its 21st appearance in program history in the NCAA Basketball Tournament, as it was chosen into the field of 68 as announced Sunday on CBS Sports.

The No. 9-seeded Tigers (22-10 overall, 11-7 SEC) learned Sunday they will face No. 8-seeded NC State (20-13, 10-8 ACC) in the tournament's East Regional second round on Thursday in Pittsburgh. The winner of this second-round game will face the winner of

top-seeded Villanova and No. 16 seed Lafayette.

LSU is back in the NCAA Tournament after a five year absence. In 2009, LSU opened the tournament with a win over Butler before losing to top seed and eventual national champion North Carolina in the second round.

LSU's overall record 24-23 in 20 tournament appearances and has won its first game in the NCAA tournament 11 times. The Tigers have reached four Final Fours (1953, 1981, 1986 and 2006), six regional finals and nine Sweet 16 appearances.

Johnny Jones becomes the fifth LSU coach to take a team to the NCAA Tournament joining Harry Rabenhorst, Dale Brown, John Brady and Trent Johnson. Jones is taking his second team to the NCAA tournament. He led leading North Texas to the 2007 and 2010 tournaments.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Kentucky completes perfect regular season

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — The top-ranked Kentucky Wildcats have a 34-game winning streak and yet another Southeastern Conference Tournament championship as they head into the NCAA Tournament.

So they sent student managers to cut down the nets.

"Those aren't the nets we're really looking to cut down," junior forward Willie Cauley-Stein said. "It's just a milestone. It's just part of the process for us

winning and everything, but we're looking for something bigger. We're looking to cut down a couple more nets in the tournament."

And perfection just may be the side product.

Cauley-Stein scored 15 points and grabbed 10 rebounds, and Kentucky never trailed in beating No. 21 Arkansas 78-63 on Sunday for the program's 28th SEC Tournament title.

The Wildcats (34-0) are only the fourth team to go into the NCAA Tournament

undefeated since Indiana finished off the last perfect season with a title in 1976. The last three teams that went into the NCAA Tournament undefeated all lost with Indiana State and Larry Bird the closest, losing in the 1979 title game.

Not that Kentucky sees being undefeated as a challenge.

"We're still only guaranteed one game, so it's really the slate is clean whether we're 34-0 or have got five losses," Cauley-Stein said.

"It's still from here on out, you're 0-0."

Andrew Harrison also scored 15 points for Kentucky, and his brother Aaron had 11.

The Razorbacks (26-8) were trying to win their second tournament title and first since 2000. Michael Qualls, coming off the bench for only the second time this season, scored 18 points, while Bobby Portis, the coaches' pick for SEC player of the year, added 13 with a season-low two

rebounds.

Unlike last season when Arkansas swept Kentucky, these Wildcats proved to be just too good. With coach John Calipari rotating Wildcats, they simply ran around the Razorbacks' usually stifling pressure defense or passed over them.

"Our guys came out and fought and scratched and clawed," Arkansas coach Mike Anderson said. "But at the end, I thought their depth and their size were hard to overcome."

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Live-streaming apps dominate buzz at South by Southwest

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — A live-streaming app called Meerkat, calls to online activism and pedicabs with a "Game of Thrones" Iron throne seat were the top topics of conversation at South by Southwest over the weekend, as 33,000-plus members of the technology, marketing and media industries poured into Austin, Texas.

"You never know what's around the corner at South By Southwest, it could be a small thing or it could be life changing," said David Rubin, Pinterest's head of brand, at the social media company's annual barbecue on Saturday. He said the festival is a good place to schmooze with clients and do some recruiting.

"Pinterest is about creativity and the employee base is quirky and interesting, so it's a good place to meet potential employees," he said.

The five-day festival is not yet half over, but buzz-worthy trends are already emerging. Here's a look at top topics so far at the annual gathering of the Technorati.

LIVE-STREAMING APPS

An app called Meerkat is dominating conversations. The simple app allows people to live stream anything at the touch of a button. The app used to let users automatically Tweet live streams too, but that came to a stop after Twitter confirmed Friday it acquired Periscope, a Meerkat rival, for undisclosed terms and limited Meerkat's access to Twitter.

At a panel Friday about government patents, U.S. Commerce Secretary Penny Pritzker had used Meerkat to stream her official swearing in of the new chief of the U.S. Patent and Trademark office Michelle Lee on Twitter. "Being the



first @cabinet official to share key events on this exciting new platform," she tweeted. Countless others streamed other panels and events.

Meanwhile, rival live-streaming app Stre.am is a finalist for SXSW's innovation awards.

ONLINE ACTIVISM

Some major political figures are using the festival to call for online activism. Former Vice President Al Gore gave a rousing talk about the need for urgent action on climate change on Friday. Gore called upon SXSW attendees to get involved in supporting climate change legislation ahead of

environmental talks in Paris in December.

"We are at a fork in the road, we can win this, but it requires passion," he said.

In a keynote on Saturday, Princess Reema Bint Bandar Al Saud of Saudi Arabia discussed her efforts to bring women into the workplace and announced a new breast cancer awareness campaign that will rely on social and mobile media to spread the word in the Middle East, including the Twitter-ready hashtag #10ksa.

Often in the Middle East, "a woman doesn't want to admit unhealthy status," she said. "There

are larger cultural issues involved to talk about breast cancer."

CORPORATE STUNTS

Promotions are everywhere. HBO's "Game of Thrones" is employing pedicabs with Iron-Throne seats and hosting "SXSWesteros," an event site that serves a "Game of Thrones" beer and allows fans a chance to sit on the show's Iron Throne.

Meanwhile, smartphone battery pack maker Mophie created buzz with St. Bernard dogs that "rescued" more than 300 festival-goers low on batteries when they tweeted a plea for help to Mophie. The dogs, all locally owned by

people in Austin, are part of the St. Bernard's Rescue Foundation, which was created to raise awareness about rescue dogs.

"People don't get exposure to St. Bernard's ever," said Mophie spokesman Kevin Malinowski. "People get them as puppies when they're so cute, but once they grow up they can't handle them, so this is almost an education."

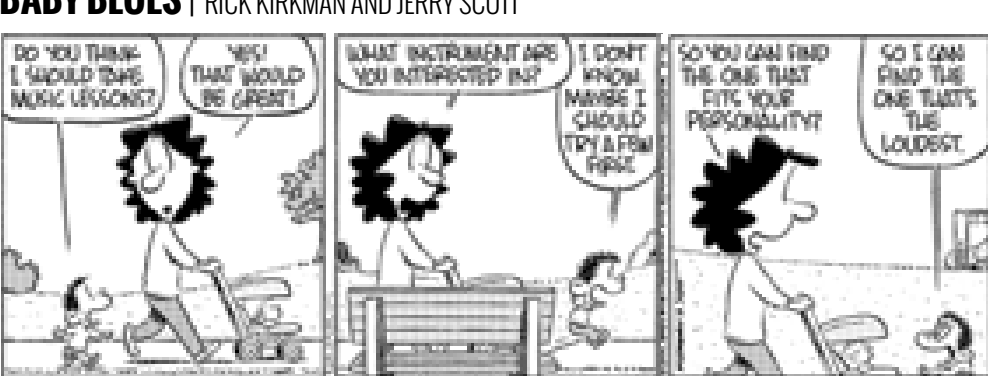
RUSSELL BRAND'S NO-SHOW

A documentary about actor Russell Brand, called "Brand, a Second Coming," was a headliner for the film portion of the festival. Brand was set to appear at the Friday pre-

miere and give a talk as well as discuss his daily YouTube show "Trews," in which he talks about news topics. But that day Brand announced on his blog that he wouldn't appear at the festival, saying he was uncomfortable with how the documentary turned out, and backed out of the talk.

"I apologise sincerely to the organisers of SXSW for my non-attendance, especially Janet Pierson, Brian Solis and Rynda Laurel from the interactive festival who were responsible for the keynote talk that I was due to do," he wrote in the blog post.

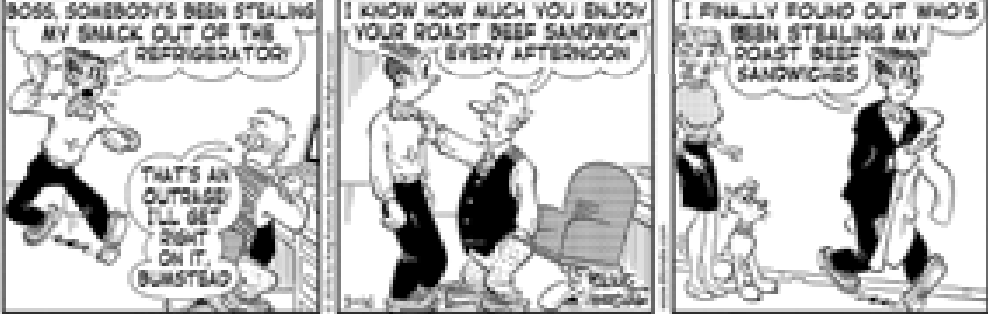
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Village of Dixie Inn
Regular Session
March 9, 2015

The Village of Dixie
Inn's Mayor and
Board of Alderman
met in regular
session on March
9, 2015, at 7:00
p.m. in Village
Hall, Dixie Inn,
Louisiana with the
following members
present: Mayor Ava
Nell McWhorter
and Aldermen
Kay Stratton,
Connie Woods and
Evelyn Walden.

The meeting was
called to order and
the invocation and
pledge of allegiance
were given.

The motion was
made by Kay
Stratton and
seconded by
Evelyn Walden to
adopt the minutes
of February 9, 2015
regular session.
Vote on the motion
was unanimous.

The financial
s t a t e m e n t s
were presented
and accepted.

D e p a r t m e n t
R e p o r t s :

Mike Chreene
reported that he
had to purchase a
new motor for the
sewer plant and
that everything
was now in good
working order.

Police Chief
reported to the
council that Officer
Alan Davis was
doing well in the
police academy

and is continuing
to work hard.

Alderman Kay
Stratton asked
about the 2015
*The Municipal
Handbook for
Municipal Officials*.
Jane Rogers,
Municipal Clerk,
informed the council
that she would
purchase a new
handbook for each
elected official.

Mayor Ava Nell
M c W h o r t e r
informed th council
about a visit from
a representative
with the Louisiana
National Guard
Youth Challenge
P r o g r a m .
I n f o r m a t i o n
concerning the
program will be
made available to
anyone interested
in attending. Mayor
McWhorter also
reported on the
Keep Louisiana
Beautiful program
and asked the
clerk to write a
letter of support
for the program.
Mayor McWhorter
also informed
the council that a
cleanup day for
the village would
be discussed and
a date for the
cleanup would
be determined
at a later time.

Old Business:

After a discussion
c o n c e r n i n g
hiring a part time
investigator for the
Police Department,
the issue was
tabled until the
next regular
session so that
a job description
could be presented.

After a discussion,
a motion was made
by Evelyn Walden
and seconded by
Kay Stratton to
allow the police
chief to purchase
the policy and
procedure program
he presented to
the council in the
February regular
meeting. Vote
on the motion
was unanimous.

There being no
further business,
a motion was
made to adjourn
by Kay Stratton
and seconded by
Connie Wood..
Vote on the motion
was unanimous.

A T T E S T

Jane Rogers
Municipal Clerk

March 16, 2015

Minden Press-Herald

March 10, 2015

The Sibley Town
Council met in
regular session on
Tuesday, March 10,
2015 at 6pm in the
Sibley Town Hall
Meeting Room.

Members present
were Mayor Jimmy
Williams; Aldermen
Doyle Chanler,
Richard Davis,
John Langford,
Larry Merritt and
Alan Myers.

Mayor Williams
opened the
meeting in prayer;
then led the Pledge
of Allegiance.

Larry Merritt
motioned to adopt
the February 10,
2015 Regular
Meeting minutes as
read, Richard Davis
seconded. Motion
carried.

No new items
were added to the
agenda.

Richard Davis
motioned to
adopt Resolution
No. 2015-05
to apply for the
Community Water
Enrichment Fun for
improvements to
the Town's water
distribution system.
Doyle Chanler
seconded. Motion
carried.

Mrs. Suzie Moseley
with the Volunteers
of America, Rural
Veterans Health
Outreach Program,
was in attendance
to promote their
new outreach
program.

Larry Merritt gave
the monthly activity
report for the Sibley
Volunteer Fire
Department.

Chief Robinson
gave the monthly
activity report for
the Sibley Police
Department.

Under Oral
Communication,
the Mayor
promoted Sibley's
annual Clean-up
Day on April 11,
2015. Drainage
on South Main was
also discussed.

John Langford
motioned to
adjourn, Richard
Davis seconded.
Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned

Jimmy Williams
Mayor

Attest:

Sherry McCann,
MMC
Town Clerk

March 16, 2015

Minden Press-Herald

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session of the
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March 4 & 5, 2015

Minden Press-Herald

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CRYPTOQUIP

PZDIV CBPM FIH ZXG VOYBJ AG

ABWWODH QBGQVB PJ AXBH'WB

JXGQQOMF OM JIQBWCPWYBAJ:

DWBEEH YWGF BW.

Friday's Answer: MOVIE FEATURING THE RETURN OF SOME NEVADA FOLIAGE DURING THE SPRINGTIME: "LEAFING LAS VEGAS. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals P

CROSSWORD

ACROSS	41 Dweeby type	DOWN	11 Hammer-head part
1 Some time —	43 Tenant city	1 Tummy muscles	16 Capades locale
4 Aesopian story	45 Maine city	2 Sticky stuff	20 Lacking slack
9 Bribe	47 Heavy weight	3 Pussy-cat's partner	21 War god
12 Violinist's need	48 Previous night	4 Up against	22 Swindle
13 Forcefully	49 Card game	5 1839 mutiny site	23 Reliability
14 Mine output	54 In medias —	6 Slugger's prop	27 Showbiz job
15 Lawyer, in the U.K.	55 Foolish	7 They have their pride	29 Genealogy chart
17 Confederacy leader	56 Conventional	8 Sign up	30 Calendar quota
18 Opposite of "trans-"	57 Wife's address	9 "Only the self exists" theory	32 Urban blight
19 Idea	58 Luke-warm	10 Sandwich cookie	34 007's quaff
21 Missing	59 Homer's neighbor		37 "Cheers"
24 Hit with an open hand	Flanders		39 Started a computer
25 Brazilian resort			42 Danish money
26 Joke			44 —
28 Lascivious			rampage
31 Right angles			45 Shoulder of a road
33 Poorly lit			46 State with certainty
35 Wear out			50 Stander's loss
36 Cut corners			51 Hostel
38 Talk and talk and talk			52 Regret
40 The Red or the Black			53 This clue's place, aptly enough

Solution time: 27 mins.

A	P	T	I	O	G	B	R	A	G	S
L	O	U	A	P	E	R	E	N	A	L
I	L	L	S	A	N	T	A	B	A	B
B	A	S	S	Q	U	I	D			
I	R	A	Q	U	S	E	L	A	N	D
		U	T	E		D	R	A	G	O
A	E	H	I	E		O	P	E	R	A
S	T	A	L	L	S		P	E	A	
P	A	N	T		O	E	R		Z	I
			T	U	L	I	P		M	A
S	A	N	T	A	R	O	S	A		A
P	R	I	A	M	P	O	I		G	E
Y	E	L	L	P	S		E	N	D	

Friday's Answers

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11
12				13						14		
15				16						17		
				18				19		20		
21	22	23						24				
25				26		27		28			29	30
31				32		33		34		35		
36				37		38		39		40		
			41			42		43		44		
45	46							47				
48				49		50				51	52	53
54				55						56		
57				58						59		

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