

MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

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Wednesday, March 4, 2015 | 50 Cents

#stoptheburn

gathering 'rallies the troops'



Ron Hagar of Saline protests the open burn method of M6 disposal outside the Minden Civic Center Tuesday just before a community rally of more than 400 people. Bruce Franklin/Press-Herald

Community rally stokes the fires, inspires the fighters

BONNIE CULVERHOUSE
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A gathering of more than 400 people at the Minden Civic Center for a "Stop the Burn" community rally Tuesday accomplished two things the organizers intended: It stoked the fires of protest of the open burn threat of millions of pounds of M6 propellant at Camp Minden, and inspired anew those who have been fighting for an alternative method of disposal almost to the point of exhaustion.

Rally coordinator Chris Broussard said her goal was to "rally the troops."

"We want to give these folks a really good idea of the amount of energy and time it has taken all of us to get the message out that we can't let this happen in our community," she said.

As children ranging in ages from 6 to 13 marched with protest signs outside the civic center, one local mom said she hopes her children were learning the dif-

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Several local children march in protest of the open air burn, while chanting "It's my future I want to see!" Parents of the children say they want their children to stand up for themselves.

Bruce Franklin/Press-Herald

Honore rallies the troops against open tray burn

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Lt. Gen. Russel Honore rallied the troops, so to speak, at the community rally against the open tray burn method of disposing of millions of pounds of M6 propellant at Camp Minden.

Not only did he talk about the issue at Camp Minden, but he gave what could be considered little known facts about the effects of toxic waste dumping all across Louisiana.

"This is being done because Louisiana has lax laws," he said to roughly 400 people in attendance. "Camp Minden was a Superfund site before the M6 got here."

According to figures he showed, Camp Minden was designated a Superfund site in the early 1980s, meaning it has been designated by the federal government as an uncontrolled toxic waste site by the Environmental

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FORECAST

Wintry weather expected tonight

*Freezing rain, sleet and
and snow expected to
move through region*

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The Minden area is once again on the edge of a winter weather threat.

Yet another round of winter precipitation is expected tonight, when the temperature drops from near 70 degrees during the day to around 30 degrees Fahrenheit before midnight, according to the National Weather Service. When that happens, there is a 90 percent chance that rain throughout the day will change to freezing rain, sleet and snow.

By Thursday morning, it is expected to drop to a 40 percent chance

with a chance of developing ice also dropping.

Meteorologist Joel Martin says it is harder to predict the winter weather impact this time – as opposed to last week – due to the rapid drop from warm to cold.

"Forecasting winter precipitation is tricky because it requires accurately predicting where the 32 degree Fahrenheit freezing boundary will be, both at the surface and above us," Martin said. "Right now it looks like most of the precipitation may exit before the freezing air makes it to us. However, some of the computer weather models still show significant ice developing here."

Martin said ice problems in the area are still possible – not probable – for Thursday morning.

**A WINTER
STORM WARNING FOR WEBSTER PARISH IS IN EFFECT FROM 6 P.M. WEDNESDAY UNTIL 9 A.M. THURSDAY**

PARISH GOVERNMENT

Water systems receive grants

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Four rural water systems will receive community water grants for improvements to their equipment following a unanimous vote by Webster Parish Police Jury members Tuesday.

Jury President Jim Bonsall said Salt Works water system will receive \$35,000 to construct a four-inch water line to connect to the town of Sibley, Jenkins water system will get \$25,000 to replace water meters, install backflow



BONSALL

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specht

Vol. 46 No. 175



WEATHER TOMORROW'S OUTLOOK



37 **23**
HIGH **LOW**
Freezing rain in the morning...becoming partly cloudy in the afternoon.

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»INSIDE:

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL
Minden Invitational
begins Thursday **PAGE 6**



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WEBSTER CRIME

Police: Woman had 28 grams of meth in purse

PAT CULVERHOUSE
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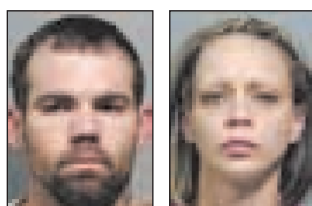
SPRINGHILL — Two north Webster Parish residents are being held in the parish jail after members of the North Webster Nar-

cotics Task Force reportedly conducted a “buy, bust” in the parking lot of a Springhill business. Springhill Chief of Police Will Lynd says 29-year-old Willey Jeb McCuen of Sarepta and

27-year-old Springhill resident Hope Danielle Modisette were arrested last week when they allegedly arrived at an arranged meeting place prepared to make a drug sale.

Lynd said the pair arrived at the time and place designated, and discovered their “customers” were task force members from the Springhill Police Department and Webster Parish Sheriff’s Office. During a search of the

vehicle, agents reportedly located over 28 grams of methamphetamine in Modisette’s purse. Both McCuen and Modisette were taken to Bayou Dorcheat Correctional Center, Lynd said.



MCCUEN MODISETTE

HONORE

Continued from page 1

Protection Agency. He also showed a graph of all the natural gas pipelines running through Louisiana, which showed north Louisiana saturated with pipelines carrying natural gas to the rest of the country. He touted it as a cleaner fuel source for electricity and other power sources. “We should be the richest, most well-resourced state in the United States,” he said, adding the state has spiraled into a deficit because, in part, of all the tax breaks given to oil and gas companies. He talked about other areas that have been literally wiped off the map in Louisiana because of companies’ alleged disregard for the environment, saying Louisiana has paid a heavy price to develop the state economically. He touched on Bayou Corne in Assumption Parish which began as a sinkhole the size of a tennis court but is now as big as 39 acres. He talked about Grand Bois, accusing the mega-petroleum company Exxon of destroying it. He even says the two

beautiful bodies of water near the Louisiana State Capitol are polluted. The Green Army, which Honore began when the sinkhole at Bayou Corne became a huge issue, has an agenda to make Louisiana a better environmental state. That includes local control, he says, which means the people have a say in which companies come into their communities. Another part of the Green Army’s agenda is to bring in 21st century air monitoring, which means bringing in modern equipment to test air quality and inform the public through media and telephone to notify them if toxic emissions have hit the air if an incident occurs at a chemical plant. Other items include safe school sites, reformation of the governance of Southern Hills Aquifer and restoration of Louisiana’s coastal wetlands. Before closing, he said, “We are an insurgency. We are a guerilla, and our weapons are our words. We are volunteers.” Other speakers included local and state officials as well as scientists and activists.



Lt. Gen. Russel Honore (Ret.), of the Green Army, was the featured speaker at Tuesday’s community rally to stop the open tray burn method of disposal of nearly 16 million pounds of M6 at Camp Minden. He talked about the reason for the organization as well as pollution issues statewide, including Camp Minden. Courtesy Photo/Jenny Reynolds

RALLY

Continued from page 1

ference between right and wrong. “When you honestly know that something’s not right and you know it’s harmful, it’s good to stand up for it no matter how scary it is,” mother of three Brandi Irby said. “No matter what the results are, I want them to know they can stand up for themselves.” Irby’s 11-year-old son marched with a sign that read: “We deserve better than this,” referring to the side effects that could result from open air burning of chemicals. “I want them to know that they do deserve better than that and their health is important,” Irby said. “Their future is important.” Springhill Mayor Carroll Breaux says he has learned

that smoke from burning chemicals could be blown as far north as his town during the disposal process. “If the wind is blowing just the right way, it could come to Springhill,” Breaux said. “I didn’t grow up in Webster Parish, so as far as I’m concerned, there is no Mason-Dixon line within the parish. We are all one group, so we should

stand together.” Several speakers, including scientists, elected officials, activists and concerned citizens shared the steps taken since a November community meeting where residents learned the Environmental Protection Agency intended the open air burn method of disposal. Most were met with standing ovations from the crowd.

BIRTHDAYS FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2015

Erestine Lewis
Bobbi Kristina Brown
Landon Donovan
Chaz Bono
Erin Heatherston
Bria Williams
Cody Longo
Patricia Heaton

happy birthday

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WEBSTER PARISH POLICE JURY

Permit granted for waste well disposal facility

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A permit to operate a commercial waste fluids injection well disposal facility at a location off Jack Martin Road near Dubberly has been granted to Nelson Energy, Inc. by the state Department of Conservation.

“Personally, I was against it because of the infrastructure in the area, but nevertheless, (Nelson) received a permit to operate this well,” Webster Parish Police Jury President Jim Bonsall told the



LEMMONS

jury at Tuesday’s meeting.

“Now, the first thing we have to do is take care of our roads, and they can’t handle this kind of traffic, either the weight or number,” he said.

Louisiana’s Commissioner of Conservation James H. Welsh signed off on the permit in a letter dated February 6. Police Jury member Steve Lemmons, who represents District 7 where the well will be operated, was one of those residents who received the letter.

“They say (Nelson) met the regulations, that’s their opinion. I don’t think they have,” Lemmons said. “Is there anything else the jury can do? We’re investigating that possibility now with Patrick (Jackson, the

jury’s attorney) to see if there’s some action left to us.”

Lemmons says Nelson Energy officials indicated during a November public hearing that the company was willing to spend the money to bring roads up to specification for the operation of a commercial disposal well.

“They’re going to have to do the roadwork to get it up to specifications before they can travel on it,” he said. “There will be some right-of-way issues in order for them to make two turns, off Hwy. 532 and then onto Jack Martin Road from Peachtree. They wanted to get the permits before they did anything. Now that it’s gone through, they have to

meet the standards.”

Jackson told jurors the infrastructure leading into the drop spot would require about \$700,000 in improvements “just to maintain traffic that was anticipated by the operators. It’s not been improved yet and hasn’t gone into full operation yet.”

In order to protect the roadways until improvements can be made, Jackson recommends an ordinance to temporarily prohibit heavy trucks.

“My recommendation to the jury is to limit traffic to residential only with exemptions for trash, bus and agricultural ... traffic that’s periodic and intermittent, not heavy, voluminous and 24-7,” he said.

Doing so, Jackson says, would give parish engineer Brad Graff the opportunity to review estimates and talk to operators, “... and see exactly what they’re going to do. Leave it at that residential weight limit until such time as the infrastructure is brought up to specifications.”

In November, a public hearing conducted by representatives of the state Department of Natural Resources at Minden’s city council meeting chambers produced a standing room only crowd. A petition with 237 signatures of individuals who opposed granting the permit was handed over to the panel.

Overwhelmingly, those who spoke during that meeting were opposed to

granting the permit. Concerns included environmental risks, both on- and off-site, and safety issues involving large trucks hauling near residential dwellings, an Evergreen Life Services group home, a daycare and through school bus routes.

But, in the letter granting the permit, Welsh said those factors, plus others including a drop in surrounding property values, proximity to a flood plain and possible ground water intrusion, had been addressed to the satisfaction of the state.

“We’re not through yet,” Lemmons said. “We’re doing everything we can.”

JURY

Continued from page 1

preventers and install new service tubing.

Union Grove water system will be able to replace old water service mains for William Brown

Road at a cost of \$25,000 and the Cypress water system will receive a first-ever grant of \$27,605 to install new water meters for its approximately 275 customers.

“It’s good to be able to help our rural water systems get what they need to operate efficiently,” Bonsall said.

Recreation funding was

approved in two districts, with the village of Heflin and town of Sibley on the receiving end in district 11. A cost has yet to be determined for Heflin’s repairs at town hall, and the cost of the annual clean-up day in Sibley, scheduled for April 11, is pending. In district 9, \$900 for improvements at the Allen Drive

fire station was approved.

Jury members learned the governor will appoint a justice of the peace to serve in district 1 after no candidate filed for the position in two separate elections. Attorney Patrick Jackson told the members they could submit names for the appointment.

During Tuesday’s meeting, jury members also approved invoices for payment, ratified emergency declarations for closing the parish courthouse Feb. 23, 24 and 25 due to weather conditions, and approved the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire that verifies correct information for the jury’s audit.

OBITUARY

Dorothy Almond Eskew

Beloved wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, Dorothy Almond Eskew, born June 22, 1924, to Walter and Arrie Almond of Minden entered into rest on March 2, 2015, at Leslie Lake Retirement Center in Arcadia at age 90.

Funeral services will be at Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden at 10 a.m., Thursday, March 5, 2015. Officiating will



ESKEW

be the Rev. Ronnie Whitlock and the Rev. Roy Southern. Interment will follow at Gardens of Memory in Minden. Visitation will be from 5 until 8 p.m. Wednesday at Rose-Neath Funeral Home.

Mrs. Eskew is preceded in death by her husband, Owen Eskew of 46 years; her parents, Walter and Arrie Almond; daughter-in-law, Karen O’Dell Eskew; sister, Josephine Almond Ruffin; and brother, James M. Almond.

Mrs. Eskew is survived by children, Mary Ann Eskew Lee (Millard) of Summerfield, Lynn Eskew (Roxianne) of Minden, Mike Eskew (Grace) of Fryeburg and Amy Acklen (John) of Minden; her grand-

children, Jackie Gardner (Jim) of Summerfield, Gerald Lee (Meg) of Summerfield, Andree Eskew of Minden, Mark Eskew (April) of Bossier, Brandon, Haley and Matt Eskew of Fryeburg, Shannon Hall (Sam) of Minden, Lance Roberts (Mandy) of Benton, Justin Holcomb (Marletta) of Bossier and Haley Lewis (Dusty) of Minden; her great-grandchildren, Dillon Goode, Hunter and Fisher Gardner, Tyler, Jacob and Jared Lee, Robbie and Mallory Bonner, Cy Gaspard, Marley and Layton Eskew, MaKenzie Eskew, Parker Hall, Adalyn and Loralee Roberts, Mason, Maggie and Maddox Lewis and Mauriana and Analiese Hol-

comb; her sister, Annie Ree Almond Bryant of Bossier; and brother, Joe Almond (Betty) of Minden.

Pallbearers will be grandsons, Gerald Lee, Mark Eskew, Brandon Eskew, Matt Eskew, Lance Roberts and nephew, Jerry Almond. Honorary pallbearers will be grandsons-in-law, Jim Gardner, Sam Hall, Justin Holcomb and Dusty Lewis and all of her great-grandchildren.

The family wishes to express a special thanks to Leslie Lakes Retirement Center (Arcadia), Town and Country Nursing Home (Minden) and Hospice Caring Hearts (Arcadia), Dr Michael Chanler and Dr. Max Stell.

VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITES!



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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Have a question about this page or want to submit an opinion? Send a message to Pat Culverhouse.
Phone: 377-1866 Ext:107
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PERSPECTIVE

Higher ed. can and must be saved

IF YOU LOOK long enough at the cuts to our higher education budget, you begin to feel like Alice in Wonderland tumbling down that deep rabbit hole. You don't know when the nightmare is going to end.

A report by Moody's Investors Services told the nation what we in Louisiana already knew. Our public colleges and universities have suffered deeper budget cuts than anywhere else in the U.S. over the past five years.

Charts by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities show we're digging ourselves deeper and deeper into a hole.

In 2013, Louisiana was second to New Mexico in the negative change to state spending per student with inflation adjusted. Now Louisiana stands first, spending \$5,004 less per student. Our neighbor to the east, Mississippi, is spending \$2,524 less per student. Texas has managed to spend only \$1,996 less per student.

Moody's warned that Louisiana's colleges are ill-equipped to face additional credit stress. In simpler terms, Moody's is warning that it will slash the credit ratings of our colleges and universities unless we clean up our budget mess. Our higher education system doesn't need a lower credit rating on top of the budget cuts. A lower credit rating would make it more expensive to borrow money when it's time to build new dormitories or fix the chemistry lab.

Thus far, we've settled on raising tuition as the solution to our problems. As Alice found when she ate the "Eat Me" cake and outgrew the room, bigger isn't always better, especially when it means taking a bigger chunk out of our families' household income to put kids through college. That's a tax increase, even if you don't call it one.

So let's stop taking more and more money out of our taxpayers' pocketbooks. Let's not even have a discussion about new tax increases. We don't need to raise taxes.

The state budget under Governor Mike Foster was \$12 billion. Now it's \$25 billion. Unless we're giving every state worker a \$120,000 LS Lexus Hybrid to tool around the state in, we have enough money to meet our needs. All we need to do is stop foolish spending.

A report by the Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana estimated we could save \$300 for every Medicaid patient who goes to a doctor's office or a clinic instead of the emergency room. Why is that significant? Medicaid and uninsured patients in Louisiana make 900,000 visits to the emergency room each



JOHN KENNEDY

year for routine care. Get a handle on that problem, and the savings are in the hundreds of millions.

Another problem - and it's one I've talked about so much that even I'm getting a little tired of punching the alarm button - is the number of consultants on the government payroll. We have 19,000 consultants. Would you believe we've paid someone to teach people how to use Facebook?

Let me tell you about Edythe Kirchmaier. Teddy Roosevelt was president when she was born. She knitted care packages for World War I soldiers. Now age 107, she recently became Facebook's oldest registered user. And she did it without the help of a paid consultant. You can follow her on Facebook. If you're unsure how, just ask Edythe to teach you.

The Louisiana Legislature will convene in April to debate the state budget in earnest. Legislators will have to figure out how to fill a \$1.6 billion budget hole. I hope they don't continue to devastate higher education with cuts. I hope they don't hire more consultants. I hope they settle on sensible solutions that get us back into credit rating agencies' good graces and set the state on a smooth course for the future.

John Kennedy is treasurer for the State of Louisiana. Reach him at www.LATreasury.com or on Facebook and Twitter.

PERSPECTIVE

Welcome to what the Supreme Court wrought

SHOULDN'T AMERICA HAVE at least one major party that isn't beholden to the corporate elite?

Well don't look now, but such a party has recently popped up, raring to roar into the 2016 presidential race. Called the KBParty, it has the funding, political network and expertise needed to bypass the establishment's control of the election system. But don't rush to sign up: KB stands for Koch Brothers.

Yes, Charlie and David — the multimillionaire, far-out, right-wing industrial barons who already own several congress critters, governors, political think tanks, PR outfits, academics, astroturf campaign machines, front groups, etc. — now have the equivalent of their very own, private political party. And their party is not beholden to the corporate elite, since it is the elite. The Koch boys have rallied roughly 300 like-minded, super-rich corporate oligarchs to their brotherhood of plutocrats, and this clique is intent on purchasing a president and congressional majority to impose their version of corporate rule over America.



JIM HIGHTOWER

Won't that be awfully pricey, you ask? Ha — that's not a question that acquisitive billionaires ever ask. For starters, at a secretive retreat in January for KBParty funders, the 300 barons ponied up some \$900 million for the campaign they are launching. That's nearly \$200 million more than the combined expenditures of the Republican and Democratic parties in last year's elections, and it's way more than either of those parties will have for 2016.

This means that, in our nation of 350 million people, a cabal of only 300 of America's wealthiest, self-serving corporatists will wield predominate power over the elections. This tiny club will have the wherewithal to narrow the choice of candidates presented to the rest of us, the range of policy ideas that are proposed to voters, the overall tone of the campaign year, and — most important — the governing agenda of those who get elected.

The KBParty of Plutocratic Rule is brought to you by the Supreme Court's disastrous Citizens United edict.

After the Court's 2010 democracy-mugging decree that corporations would henceforth be allowed to dump unlimited amounts of their shareholders' money into our election campaigns, a guy named Larry sent a hot email to me that perfectly summed up what had just been done to us: "Big money has plucked our eagle!"

The black-robed corporatists' freakish Citizens United ruling has already let the KBParty amass their unprecedented electioneering fund, setting them up as the Godfathers of tea party Republicanism. Supposedly proud candidates for governor, Congress and even such presidential wannabes as Ted Cruz, Rand Paul, Marco Rubio and Scott Walker are shamelessly scurrying to the money throne to kiss the Koch ring, do a song & dance, grovel and pledge fealty to the brotherhood's extremist plutocratic agenda.

But big money is plucking our eagle not only because it corrupts candidates but also because it is used to deny crucial information to voters and greatly diminish their participation in what has become a farce. First of all, the biggest chunk of cash spent by the KBParty will go right into a mindboggling squall of television ads, none of which will explain who they're for and why. Rather, they will be nauseatingly negative attack ads, brimming with optical trickery and outright lies to trash the candidates they're against. Worse, voters will not even be informed that the garbage they're watching is paid for by the Koch cabal, since another little favor the Supreme Court granted to the corporate plutocrats is that they can run secret campaigns, using their front groups as screens to keep voters from knowing what special interests are behind the ads — and why.

We saw the impact of secret, unrestricted corporate money in last year's midterm elections. It produced a blight of negativity, a failure of the system to address the people's real needs, an upchuck factor that kept nearly two-thirds of the people from voting, and a rising alienation of the many from the political process and government owned by the few. The Koch machine spent about \$400 million to get those results. This time, they'll spend more than twice that.

To help ban the corporate cash that's clogging America's democratic process and killing our people's right to self-government, go to www.DemocracyIsForPeople.org.

Jim Hightower is a national radio commentator, writer, public speaker and author.

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All letters must be signed and have a valid telephone number

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WEBSTER PARISH'S NEWS SOURCE

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COMMUNITY

DORCHEAT HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION MUSEUM

Agan schedules book signing

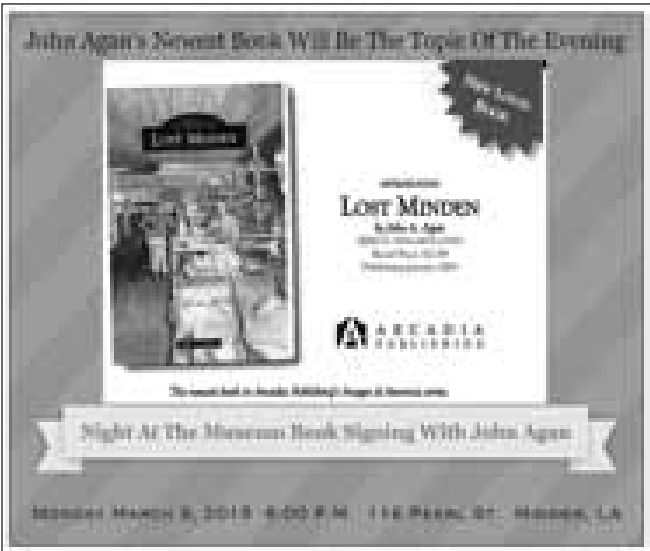
Minden native and life-long resident John Agan will share and sign his newest book at the March 9 “Night at the Museum” event.

“Agan’s love of history began as a small child during the Civil War Centennial of the 1960s and has been his passion ever since, eventually becoming his career,” museum director Schelley Francis said. “Don’t miss a chance to hear some great history and get your autographed copy of Lost Minden from John Agan.”

Agan earned a B.A., M.Ed. and M.A. in History from Louisiana Tech University and completed work toward his Ph.D. at both Louisiana State University and the University of Mississippi.

After working in banking and government, he began a teaching career in the early 1990s. He has been an Assistant Professor of History at Bossier Parish Community College since 2004.

He is active in the Dorcheat Historical Association, the Minden Ceme-



tery Association, and the Friends of the Germantown Colony Museum and serves as Chairman of the Secretary of State’s Advisory Board for the Germantown Colony Museum.

He has been named the official historian for Webster Parish by the parish governing body, the Webster Parish Police Jury.

For 10 years, he wrote a weekly newspaper column on local history for the Minden Press-Herald. He is the author of seven books on local history,

including three previous works for Arcadia Publishing.

It is the author’s hope that this book will provide a lasting record of the people and places that shaped the community of Minden for its residents to enjoy and appreciate.

“My hope would be that this book will provide a place where these various images of what our community looked like and who shaped the community can be found without having to search,” Agan

said. “These people and places are not forgotten but in a small town sometimes there is no source where one can find images of those people and places. I hope that in the future it will allow local residents to see where we ‘have come from’ so they can appreciate our heritage and use those lessons to shape our future.”

Museum events are held in the Media/Learning room at the Dorcheat Historical Association Museum, 116 Pearl Street, Minden. Museum doors will open at 5:30 p.m., with first-come, first-served seating. Program begins at 6 p.m.; admission is free with potluck desserts and snacks welcome.

For more information contact Francis at 377-3002 or visit www.museum-minden.blogspot.com to sign up for the museum email blast. The museum can be found on Facebook. To learn more about Webster Parish’s rich history visit the Dorcheat Historical Association Museum located at 116 Pearl Street in Minden.

Around Town

Wednesday, March 4

State Rep. Gene Reynolds will host a “Stop the Burn” meeting at 6 p.m. at Mt. Zion CME Church on East Union. Everyone is invited to attend.

Thursday, March 5

Adult Christian Education Class from 6:30 until 8 p.m. at St. John’s Episcopal Church, 1107 Broadway. Topic for third week: Jesus Crossing Borders.

Parent PARCC test information night will be held from 6 until 7:30 p.m. at the Doyline High School cafeteria. Parents can learn ways to assist a child with the timed PARCC test, express concerns and ask questions about upcoming Phase I and Phase II, learn strategies to assist their child with PARCC tests and the implications of “opting out.” Call 318-745-3673 for information.

Saturday, March 7

Plate lunch benefit for cancer victim Jameelah Salim from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Cullen. Lunches available for \$8 per plate. Free gospel concert at 6 p.m. at the church with gospel recording artist Jay Williamson, Springhill High School class of 1995, as special guest.

Jonquil Jubilee Garden Tour will be from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. in Gibsland. Tickets for the self-guided tour are \$10 and will be available at the Jubilee booth. Begin the day with a pancake breakfast from 8 until 10 a.m. at a cost of \$5.

Sunday, March 8

Springfield Baptist Church, 2287 Hwy. 517, Mt. Lebanon, will celebrate its 151st Church Anniversary at 3 p.m. The Rev. Calvin Williams is pastor; guest speaker and choir are the Rev. John Cole and Mt. Comfort Baptist Church.

New Light Missionary Baptist Church, 413 W.R. Reeder St., will host Annual Deacon and Deaconess Day Celebration at 3 p.m. Special guest is the Rev. Reggie Lofton, Pastor and Mt. Nebo Baptist Church. The Rev. Asby K. Glosson, New Light pastor, invites the public to attend.

Annual Ushers’ Program will be 3 p.m. at Union Grove Baptist Church. Guest speaker and church are Pastor Johnnie Dyes and Saint Matthew Missionary Baptist Church of Athens.

Humane group seeking dog houses

With cold weather here to stay for a while longer, including more sleet and snow possibly this week, the Webster Humane Association is requesting help

with dog houses for the many canine friends that are in foster care awaiting adoption.

WHA member Sandy Chandler says the group

will accept old, used or new houses as well as lumber to construct a house or money to purchase them.

“We will even take those that need to be repaired,”

Chandler said. “We just desperately need these houses.”

To contribute, call Chandler at 377-3804 or WHA at 377-7433.

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Friday, March 13th & Saturday, March 14th at 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 15th at 2:00 p.m.

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(Contact Amber in Church Office: 377-4434)

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SPORTS
briefs

COLLEGE BB

Kentucky survives scare from Georgia

ATHENS, Ga. (AP) — Kentucky has been in some close games.

This was a new predicament, however.

With just over 9 minutes to go, the top-ranked Wildcats found themselves down by nine points, facing an inspired Georgia team and a hostile crowd, their perfect season very much in jeopardy.

No problem.

Kentucky clamped down defensively and turned to freshman Karl-Anthony Towns to carry the offensive load, ripping off a 14-0 run that finally put away the pesky Bulldogs 72-64 on Tuesday night.

Did losing cross the Wildcats' minds?

Not a chance.

"We think about what we need to do to win the game," Towns said.

And now, the Wildcats are 30-0, just one win away from a perfect regular season. They'll try to finish that off Saturday against Florida at Rupp Arena.

From there, it's on to the Southeastern Conference tournament, where Kentucky will be a huge favorite.

Then comes the NCAA Tournament and an expected No. 1 seed.

NBA

LeBron lights up Celtics for 27 points

CLEVELAND (AP) — LeBron James doesn't usually spend a lot of time talking about personal accomplishments, but he made an exception Tuesday night.

James scored 27 points to move into 21st place on the NBA's career list, and the Cleveland Cavaliers cruised to a 110-79 victory over the Boston Celtics.

James, who has 24,508 career points, moved past former Miami Heat teammate Ray Allen with a layup in the third quarter.

"He's one of my best friends," James said. "He's a guy I competed against and grew up watching, and to be able to team with him the last two years when I was with Miami, I learned so much from him. To know I passed him, it's very humbling."

The Cavaliers have been one of several teams rumored to sign Allen, who hasn't played this season. Asked if passing Allen might give him the incentive to return, James laughed and said, "He'll make one 3 and then retire? I'm going to call him. I don't know. It's pretty cool."

James was pulled with 4:41 remaining in the period and didn't return, playing 26 minutes.

Kyrie Irving scored 18 points in his return after missing two games with a shoulder injury, and Kevin Love — who played despite missing the morning shoot-around due to illness — added 12 points.

The Cavaliers, coming off their first back-to-back defeats since early last month, went ahead midway through the first quarter and rolled to their 19th victory in the last 23 games. Cleveland hadn't lost two in a row since a six-game skid Jan. 4-13. The Cavs have also won 12 straight at home.

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

MINDEN TOURNAMENT

Crimson Tide set to host invitational at Griffith Stadium



BLAKE BRANCH

blake@press-herald.com

With more winter weather in the forecast for Thursday, the Minden Crimson Tide and Lakeside Warriors can only hope for clear skies so that they can take part in the Minden Baseball Tournament.

The Tournament begins Thursday, March 5 and goes through Saturday March 7 at Griffith Stadium.

There are six teams competing in this year's tournament: Minden, Lakeside, Parkway, North DeSoto, St. Mary's and Natchitoches Central.

If the Thursday games get rained out like the weather forecast would suggest, a lot could change in the tournament format. As of now, the tournament schedule is as follows:

March 5
4 p.m. Lakeside vs. Natchitoches Central

6 p.m. Parkway vs. North DeSoto

March 6
4 p.m. St. Mary vs. Parkway

6 p.m. Minden vs. Lakeside

March 7
10 a.m. Lakeside vs. St. Mary

12 p.m. Minden vs. Parkway

2 p.m. North DeSoto vs. St. Mary

4 p.m. North DeSoto vs. Natchitoches Central

6 p.m. Minden vs. Natchitoches Central

All games will be played with a two-hour time limit and a 10-run rule in effect after five innings. A coin flip will



Submitted Photo/Russell Hedges

be used to determine the home teams in all games except those involving Minden High. The Crimson Tide will be the home team for all three of their games.

"We took a pounding this weekend," Minden head coach Dean Francis said of the weather. "It's cold, the kids can't feel their fingers and it's just miserable conditions."

Despite the conditions, which should be much improved by Friday and Saturday, the show will go on.

"It looks like will get some high 40's, low 50's for the weather," Francis said. "Hopefully the people come out and support us. We've got some pretty good competition coming out with Parkway, Natchitoches Central, of course Lakeside, St. Mary's and North DeSoto. We need to play, we need to see good competition and get in a groove. Everyone should come out this weekend and see some good baseball."



Submitted Photo/Russell Hedges

STANDOUT PERFORMANCE



Turner Francis, a Minden High graduate and son of Crimson Tide baseball coach Dean Francis, went 3-3 with 2 RBI and 4 runs scored in an LSU-Eunice win over Kellogg Community College Monday. Photo Courtesy of LSU-E Athletics

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Eagles will trade McCoy

Chip Kelly's latest bold move is another example of his coaching philosophy: "Culture beats scheme."

Two people familiar with the deal told The Associated Press the Philadelphia Eagles have agreed to trade star running back LeSean McCoy to the Buffalo Bills for linebacker Kiko Alonso. Both people spoke under condition of anonymity on Tuesday because the teams had not announced the deal.

Kelly hasn't won a playoff game in two seasons in the NFL, but he isn't afraid to make unpopular decisions.

Last year, he cut three-time Pro Bowl wide receiver DeSean Jackson after a career season. Now, he's trading away a two-time All-Pro for a talented but injury-prone player.

ESPN first reported the trade. It can't be completed until the 2015 league season begins next Tuesday. McCoy, who played high school, col-

lege and pro football in Pennsylvania, could refuse to go to Buffalo.

Since taking full control of all personnel moves away from former general manager Howie Roseman in the offseason, Kelly has been busy reshaping a team that won 10 games in each of his first two seasons. He released longtime starting offensive lineman Todd Herremans and third-string tight end James Casey last week. He cut starting cornerback Cary Williams hours before the McCoy trade.

Trading McCoy is a big risk for Kelly, who firmly believes players in his system are replaceable. McCoy thrived in Kelly's up-tempo offense in 2013, leading the NFL with a franchise-record 1,607 yards rushing. His production, along with the rest of the offense, slipped in 2014 and he finished with 1,319 yards. Inconsistency and injuries on the offensive line were a major factor.

It was never clear how much the 26-year-old McCoy and Kelly got along. McCoy said Kelly pushed him harder than any coach he had. "Chip is constantly on me," McCoy said last August. Kelly later created a stir when he said McCoy sometimes practices "not so great."

It is clear, however, that Kelly wants guys who buy everything he's selling. He has a unique approach that includes practice on Tuesdays — an off day for every other team in the league — and tougher practices instead of walk-throughs the day before the game.

Whatever the relationship with Kelly, McCoy is gone. Kelly gets another player he's quite familiar with in Alonso. The 24-year-old played for Kelly at Oregon. He had an outstanding rookie year after Buffalo selected him in the second round in 2013. But he tore the ACL in his left knee and missed the 2014 season.

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PRIMETIME TELEVISION

NBC's 'Parks and Recreation' says farewell

NEW YORK (AP) — Viewers said farewell to Amy Poehler and the gang of Pawnee, Indiana, bureaucrats on NBC's "Parks and Recreation," in a finale that made more of a dent online than on television.

The Nielsen company said an estimated 4.15 million people saw the show exit Tuesday after seven seasons on the air. While it was the show's biggest audience in two years, it ranked only No. 58 among all the prime-time broadcast shows last week, reflecting its status as more of a cult than broad-based favorite.

However, the finale generated more tweets than any other program on television, including AMC's popular "The Walking Dead," which had more than triple the viewers, Twitter said.

"Parks and Recreation" added another million viewers on a time-delayed basis within three days of its airing.

CBS' duo of "NCIS" and "The Big Bang Theory" led the ratings last week, as is often the case. But on broadcast TV, the next five most-watched scripted shows were all series that debuted within the past year.

CBS easily won the week in prime-time, averaging 9.2 million viewers. NBC had 6.4 million, ABC had 6.1 million, Fox had 5

million, Univision had 3.1 million, the CW had 1.3 million, ION Television had 1.2 million and Telemundo had 1.1 million.

AMC was the week's most popular cable network, averaging 1.91 million viewers in prime time. USA had 1.85 million, Fox News Channel had 1.83 million, The Disney Channel had 1.68 million and Discovery had 1.65 million.

NBC's "Nightly News" continued to maintain its lead with Lester Holt filling in for the suspended Brian Williams, although the gap with second-place ABC is tightening. "Nightly News" averaged 9.7 million viewers last week, ABC's "World News Tonight" had 9.5 million and the "CBS Evening News" had 8 million.

For the week of Feb. 23-March 1, the top 10 shows, their networks and viewerships: "NCIS," CBS, 17.38 million; "The Big Bang Theory," CBS, 16.67 million; "The Walking Dead," AMC, 14.43 million; "The Voice" (Tuesday), NBC, 14.06 million; "The Voice" (Monday), NBC, 13.97 million; "Empire," Fox, 13.9 million; "NCIS: New Orleans," CBS, 13.71 million; "60 Minutes," CBS, 13.55 million; "Madam Secretary," CBS, 11.65 million; "The Odd Couple," CBS, 11.08 million.



Canadians 'Spocking' the image of ex-PM on \$5 bill

OTTAWA, Ontario — The death of actor Leonard Nimoy last week has inspired people to post photos on social media of marked-up five-dollar Canadian banknotes that show former prime minister Wilfrid Laurier transformed to resemble Spock, Nimoy's famous "Star Trek" character.

For years, Canadians

have been wielding pens to draw Spock's pointy Vulcan ears, sharp eyebrows and signature bowl haircut on the five's image of Laurier, Canada's first Francophone prime minister. The likeness is remarkable.

Canada's central bank said this week it's not illegal to deface or even mutilate banknotes, although there are laws that prohib-

it reproducing a current bill electronically.

Nonetheless, bank spokeswoman Josianne Menard said Tuesday that scribbling on bills inappropriate because it defaces a Canadian symbol and source of national pride. Menard said defaced bills may not circulate for as long and risk being rejected by retailers. "There are important rea-

sons why it should not be done," she said in an email.

Following Nimoy's death Friday, social media users posted their own versions of Laurier's Vulcan makeover to honor the actor.

"Spock your \$5 bills for Leonard Nimoy," a group called the Canadian Design Resource tweeted alongside its depiction.

Images of the altered bills circulated widely online and attracted international media attention to something many Canadians had never seen before — although for others, it was hardly a new frontier.

Calgary artist Tom Bagley, who posted his own Spock-Laurier hybrid on Facebook and Flickr after Nimoy's death,

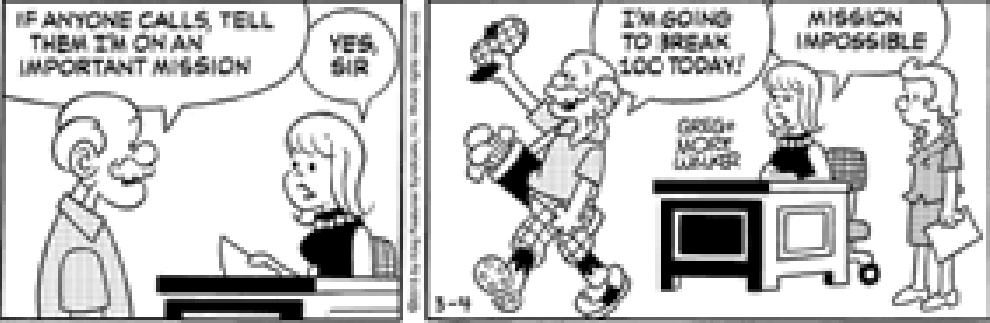
described it as an old bar trick to impress the waitress.

"I always thought it was OK as long as the numbers were intact — it still counted as money," he said. "That's what I heard. Because stuff happens, like say you spill spaghetti sauce all over it or something like that."

BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BEETLE BAILEY | MORT & GREG WALKER



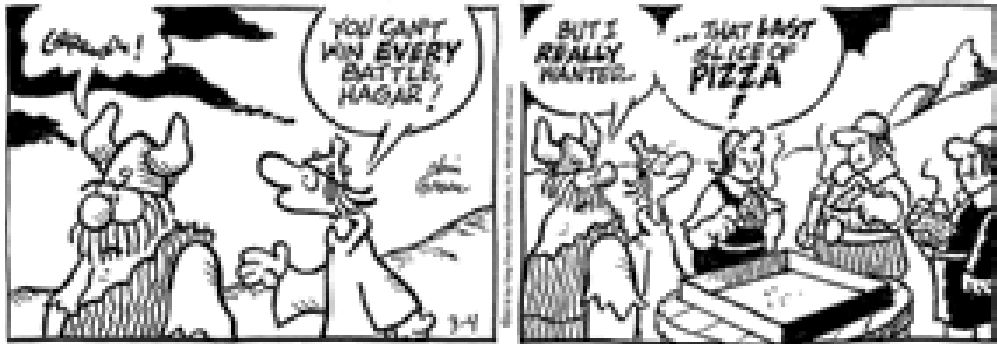
BLONDIE | DEAN YOUNG AND JOHN MARSHALL



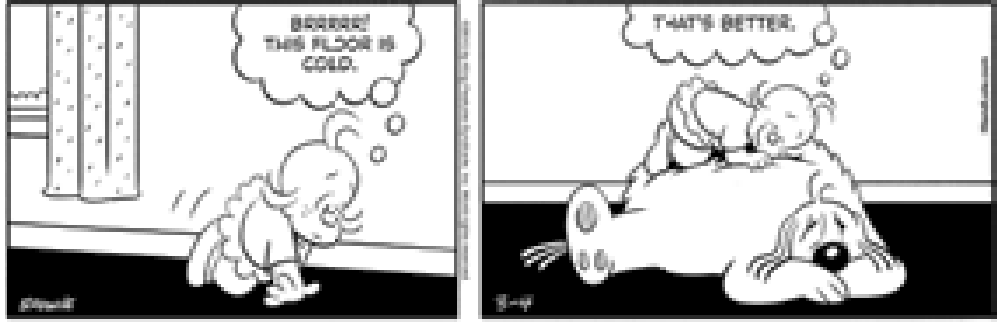
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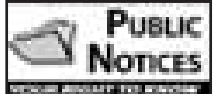
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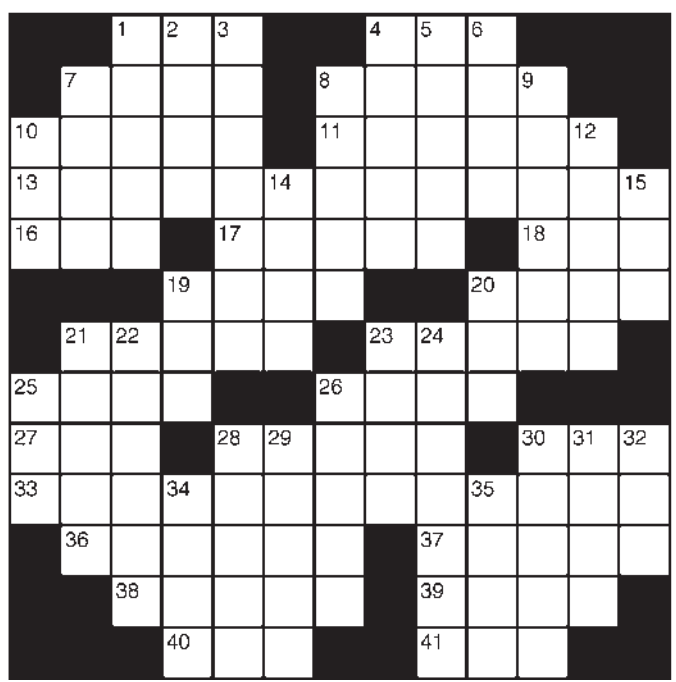
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LAXHI BDVIQJL BYRQNHV
IHEBXODAE NX RDXCD CHFB
CXAD YEEDANOD: NBD

RDNNDA RXEEQJDEE RHADYH.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I HAVE COME TO
 BELIEVE THAT OLD MARATHONERS NEVER DIE,
 THEY SIMPLY MOVE ON TO A BETTER PACE.
 Today's Cryptoquip Clue: N equals T

CROSSWORD

ACROSS	27 Two, in	DOWN	10 Wilde-
1 Ruin the veneer	Tijuana	1 Ripple	beest
4 Turf	28 Dieter's entree	2 Help a	12 Entangle-
7 Asian desert	30 "Gee, ya think?"	prankster	ments
8 Garden intruder	33 Neil	3 "You betcha!"	14 Diner employee
10 "Peer Gynt" composer	Diamond	4 Whale	15 Foreman foe
11 Go ashore	36 Checked cotton	variety	19 Pale
13 Where the Tar River flows	37 Like	5 "Wow!"	20 Still
16 Hawaiian music-maker	Chicago, it's said	6 Use	21 Throng
17 Rock opera by The Who	38 Mah-jongg pieces	an old phone	22 Go postal
18 Encyclopedia bk.	39 Therefore	7 Under-	23 Phobia
19 Courts	40 Roulette bet	stand,	24 Pro-
20 Bigfoot's cousin	41 Rotation duration	in sci-fi lingo	vided an income
21 Metallic noise		8 Washing-	for
23 Senses		ton's	25 Egos' counter-
25 Un-		succes-	parts
yielding		sor	26 Sculpting mediums
26 Minimal change		9 Non-	28 Subway entrance
		sense	29 Played a part
			30 Unclean
			31 Destroy
			32 "Yo!"
			34 Eastern potentate
			35 Old Italian money



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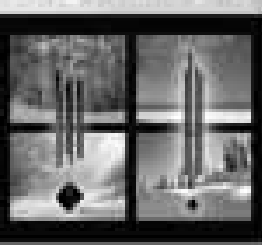
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