

TRIVIA

Exclusively in The Chronicle-News

Many area coal towns had baseball teams. Which one's mascot was the Grizzlies?

a. Aguilar
b. Cokedale
c. Sopris
d. Weston

Yesterday's answer: Elks Park

Trips home fill with family, leaving little time for friend

DEAR ABBY: I return to my hometown at least twice a year to visit my large extended family. When I do, I have tried to make time for my oldest friend, "Judith," whom I have known since kindergarten. In the past we have gotten together for a few hours here and there - for dinner, coffee or whatever. She's great company, and we have fun together.



Dear Abby
Jeanne Phillips

I'd like to spend more time with Judith, but Mom and Dad are close to 90 and there are many other relatives on my side to see, which takes up most of our time.

Years ago, we tried to see all our friends, but more recently we have limited it to Judith and her husband and occasionally include a mutual friend.

Judith just e-mailed me telling me to "have a nice life" because if we were "truly" friends, I'd make more time with her. She won't reply to my e-mails or return my calls.

I respect her feelings, but feel pressured by the time constraints of our brief visits home. Judith has no children, a single brother and a married brother with whom she recently reunited.

I feel like I have committed some kind of crime. I think if she was a true friend, she'd understand my predicament. Please help. -- DEEPLY HURT IN ARIZONA

DEAR HURT: Your pal Judith doesn't appear to have matured much since kindergarten. Her behavior is petulant, immature and self-centered. Although you care for her, you cannot shirk your family obligations in order to placate her. If Judith can't appreciate that you have placed your family first, it's regrettable, but please don't permit her to punish you for it. You're doing the right thing and, although you may be hurt right now, let that be your consolation.

DEAR ABBY: I have been involved with "Rich" for 4 1/2 years. We are now engaged. In the beginning, everything was great. What I didn't know was that Rich had a baby on the way. I learned about it from a young woman who knocked on our door nine months later.

Rich said he was sorry and that he'd handle it. I knew the situation would be hard to accept, but suppressed my feelings like I always do instead of being honest about it.

Now this woman comes over whenever she wants. If she's angry about something, she'll say, "I don't want my baby around HER," meaning me. She has friends who work with me, and she has spread lies about me there. She has also called my house on several occasions and has been rude and nasty.

I have tried to deal with this, but Rich's infidelity and his having a child with another woman still hurts like it happened yesterday -- and the child is now 3. Can you help me? -- NOT MOVING ON IN VIRGINIA

DEAR NOT MOVING ON: I'll try. Before things evolve any further, don't you think that it's time to be open and honest? You have unresolved anger issues to deal with, and rightfully so. That's why I strongly advise you and your fiancé to start premarital and couples counseling NOW.

Did Rich know he had gotten a girl pregnant before she knocked on the door and told you? If so, then what other information might he also have forgotten to mention? And why would he tolerate the abusive behavior that the baby's mama is dishing out to you? If you want to be treated with the respect you deserve, you must assert yourself. And if you don't get it, then I advise you to ditch Rich.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

WHAT'S UP TODAY?

Today is Tuesday, March 16, the 75th day of 2009. There are 290 days left in the year.

Highlights in history on this date:

- 1844 - Greece adopts Constitution with two chambers.
- 1850 - Nathaniel Hawthorne's novel "The Scarlet Letter" is published in the United States.
- 1851 - Spanish Concordat with Papacy goes into effect, whereby Catholicism becomes sole faith in Spain and Church gains control of education and the press.
- 1934 - Rome protocols signed between Italy, Austria and Hungary to form Danubian bloc against Little Entente of Czechoslovakia, Romania and Yugoslavia.
- 1935 - Germany repudiates disarmament clauses of Versailles Treaty that ended World War I.
- 1945 - Japanese resistance to U.S. assault on Iwo Jima in Pacific comes to end in World War II.
- 1995 - In a first for Russian-American cooperation in space, a Soyuz space capsule carrying an American astronaut docks with the orbiting Russian space station Mir.
- 1996 - Thousands of civilians flee the Chechen town of Samashky as Russian artillery shells rain down on their homes.
- 2003 - Anti-war protesters demonstrate across the United States to show their support for peace, including an estimated 10,000 protesters in Chicago.

- 2005 - Syrian military intelligence agents leave Beirut, ending an 18-year presence in Lebanon.
- 2006 - Thailand's Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra vows to lead his party to victory in an upcoming election despite widespread street protests demanding he step down.
- 2007 - China's legislators pass a law providing the most sweeping protection for private businesses and property since the nation's move toward a more capitalist-style economy beginning in the late 1970s.
- 2008 - Four Belgian tourists held hostage by protesting farmers are released after security forces in boats and helicopters locate the group in Guatemala's eastern jungle.
- 2009 - Iran's most prominent reformer former President Mohammed Khatami pulls out of the race against the country's hard-line president, saying he does not want to split the pro-reform vote.

- Today's Birthdays:** James Madison, U.S. president (1751-1836); Georg Simon Ohm, German physicist (1787-1854); Modest Mussorgsky, Russian composer (1839-1881); Reza Shah Pahlavi, shah of Iran (1878-1946); Jerry Lewis, U.S. comedian (1926-).

Answer to previous Word Scrammage

WORD SCRAMMAGE™ SOLUTION BY JUDD HAMBRICK
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E M P A T H Y	1 st DOWN = 121
A V E N G E R	2 nd DOWN = 118
A T H E I S M	3 rd DOWN = 82
C U R S O R Y	4 th DOWN = 94
AVERAGE GAME 265-275 PTS	JUDD'S TOTAL = 415

3-15-10

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Shuler crowd comes to the Cabaret

Continued from page 1
from former American Idol contestant Zac Mordechai as the Emcee, but marred by a strident Sally Bowles, as performed by Oakley Boycott.

At the dawn of the 1930s, Berlin's Kit Kat Klub has created its own amoral world; its denizens are so deeply immersed in their drunken partying that they remain oblivious to the rise of Hitler right outside their insular little world. Mordechai's Emcee comes off as appropriately creepy, even slimy, but gradually, as the audience is drawn into his perverse world, he becomes the life of the party - until the outside world inevitably encroaches, bringing the party to an end.

A great party it is, while it lasts: throughout Act I, Raton's audience members were treated to an extravagant entertainment from their seats around the edge of the Kit Kat Klub. Lighting, sets, costumes,

dancing, and acting all shined in a top-notch professional production. What a pleasure it is to live off the beaten path yet have shows of this quality regularly come to town. As always, the Shuler Theater is a crown jewel of the community.

The actors wore discreet microphones that were nearly invisible from most of the house, but people sitting near the front may have found them a distraction; worse, the sound up front was over-amplified and loud, though it sounded fine further back.

A larger problem was Ms. Boycott's portrayal of Sally Bowles. Perhaps the fault is attributable to director/choreographer Paula Hammons Sloan, but this Sally Bowles was over-acted, over the top, speaking and singing in her upper register, movements and expressions exaggerated and over-amped. This is a character that should attract some empathy from under

her party-girl exterior; but only near the bitter end does she even come close.

When Bowles wants to move in with American writer Cliff Bradshaw, he tells her, "This will never work: you're too distracting," to which she replies "Distracting? No, inspiring!" But Bradshaw was right, more than he knew. This performance of Bowles was a distraction.

The production was lifted by the performance of a fine eight-piece band that worked seamlessly with the

actors. The musicians were in Kit Kit Kostumes - presumably, they're on the side of the stage in many venues, but here they were unseemingly down in the Shuler's orchestra pit, except for bassist/accordionist Michael Rosengarten, who played beside audience members: not quite all of the musicians could fit in the pit. Rosengarten provided a nice visual element.

Overall, Friday night's show was grand entertainment - a jolting, exuberant dance party that gradually, inevitably, yields to the darker reality outside. At its first signs, Bowles asks,

"Politics? What does politics have to do with us?" The Emcee assures all that "There is no trouble inside," but as the final curtain falls, he's in concentration-camp stripes. No amount of drink or denial can stave off cruel reality.

Fortunately for all involved, the company's spanking-clean, huge white cast bus was parked right outside the theater's doors to take the actors farther down the road and remind the audience members that the Shuler Theater can transport them anywhere, anytime, but always drops them safely back at home.

CHICKEN FRIED STEAK MEAL

SPECIAL OFFER WEDNESDAYS ONLY!

YOU GET:

- chicken fried steak with white gravy
- individual mashed potatoes with gravy
- individual cole slaw
- 1 baked biscuit

\$2.99

plus tax - no substitutions - lunch or dinner - no limit

TRINIDAD 212 Nevada 719-846-7723

DINE IN! DRIVE THRU! CARRY OUT!

SCHOOL EVENTS

GENERAL INFO

- Delta Kappa Gamma Society, Iota Chapter is offering a \$1,000 Scholarship for a female education major in the Raton, Trinidad, or Walsenburg area. If interested contact Shari at <scholarship.dkg@gmail.com> for eligibility requirement information. Deadline is this Friday, March 19, 2010.
- Scholarship - Miners' Colfax Medical Center Auxiliary \$1,000 Medical

Scholarship offered per year to assist one or more Colfax County high school graduates interested in Medical or Health related fields. Contact Shirley Faver at 575-445-4988 for more information. Deadline is April 5.

TUESDAY
Aguilar - Board of Education meets 5:30 p.m. Tues in the Board Room, 420 Balsam.

WEDNESDAY
Trinidad - District Accountability meeting 6 p.m. Weds @ the school's District Office, BOE Room, 215 S. Maple Street.

THE FINE PRINT

@ the Trinidad Ambulance Dist Office, 2309 E. Main St. Suite A.

FP Fire
Fisher's Peak Fire Protection Board of Directors meets 6 p.m. Wed @ Fire Station #1 Starkville. Public is invited.

Housing Authority
Trinidad Resident Council meets 6 p.m. Weds @ old YMCA building 204 E. Kansas. Please RSVP to Tammie Fox @ 846-7204.

THURSDAY
Rotary Club
Weekly Luncheon & Meeting 12 p.m. Thurs. @ the Holiday Inn, 3130 Santa Fe Trail Dr.

Red Hat Mtn Mamas
Meets for lunch 1 p.m. Thurs @ Tequilla's Restaurant, 9900 Santa Fe Trail Dr. Info: 846-7992 (Beverly). New members welcome.

Ambulance Service
District Board of Directors meets 4 p.m. Weds

Parenting Class
"Parenting with Love & Logic" FREE class 6 p.m. (1st & 3rd Thursday) @ Fisher's Peak Elementary, 900 Moore's Canyon Road. For more information call Kevin Crosby @ 845-2043.

Trout Unlimited
Purgatoire River Anglers meets 6:30 p.m. Thurs @ the Lucky Monkey, 136 W. Cedar. Call Joanie @ 846-7307 for more information. Public is invited.

Elks Lodge
Trinidad Order of Elks, Lodge #181 meets 8 p.m. Thurs @ 120 South Maple St.

PUBLIC SERVICE
Historical Society
Trinidad "Towns of Las Animas County" Project is collecting information & pictures of Tercio, Torres & Stonewall. Please drop information @ Hadad's, 131 E. Main Street or call 846-3792 or 846-3456 (Carol Schleich).