

Friday Follies 04/19/2002

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Hey!

Thank you! Several of you wrote and said that you were now planning to take trips to the "Pilgrimage" in Mississippi after last week's Follies. Some now, and some said they were putting it on their "Retirement List" of things to do. I can assure you, if you like history and architecture, you would not be disappointed.

Well, the ski season is basically over in Colorado...not to my way of thinking...but to my son's. I personally remember years of spring skiing when I lived in California and it was my favorite time to ski. We would put on shorts and tank tops and head down the slopes. Sometimes it would be sunny and 55 degrees, and I remember getting the best tans in the world that way.



Nonetheless, my son has decided that it is time to move on and "experience" something new. He has moved from Keystone, Colorado where he worked the slopes of the resort, to Chester, Connecticut for the spring and summer where he has been hired to scrub and paint boats at a marina. Loves it. Do you remember being young enough to travel around and experience all of that stuff? Not me. I was born old. I had a job at 13, and went right from college into marriage and a career. I am actually kinda envious.



We woke up on Sunday to the most incredible spring day...soft gentle breeze, high 70's, sunshine, our yard in total bloom, and high tide due that day at 11:15 a.m. We packed a lunch and cooler, got our fishing poles, bait, and the dog, and headed down to the dock. While loading up the boat, my daughter called and wanted a boat ride over to a friend's house where she was going to go jet skiing....ah....such is life in Virginia Beach....



Well, we forgot that it was a "Spring Tide" which is the lowest of the year. Even at high tide, the boat would not budge. We pushed and we pulled, and even though we had water, we had about two inches too little to make the old "Mud Toad" float. Bummer. We unpacked the boat, put the dog back in the yard, sent Jessica on her way by land, and then ended up spending the day doing "chores" around the house. Extremely disappointing! All day long I would look at the clock and think, we would be at "so and so" right now, or we wouldn't have even passed "so and so" yet. Oh well, that just means our maiden voyage of the year is something we can still look forward to with great anticipation.

Went to the Shad Planking this week. It is held in Wakefield, Virginia and celebrated its 54th year this week. A Shad is a type of fish, and the event got its name from taking Shad and nailing them to planks in a smokehouse. Then they serve them up at a fund raising event, much like an oyster roast or a BBQ. The event, over the years, has turned into the biggest political event in the state. It reminds me of the Nishoba County Fair in Mississippi...even though NOTHING can compare to that. At any rate, there are no state elections going on this year, so the politicians were few and far between. It was also the veto session in Richmond, so none of the electeds were there. We did get to spend time with U.S. Senator (and former Governor) Allen and Former Governor

Balilles. That was nice, and Lt. Gov. Jerry Kilgore came in near the end of the day. Photos are forthcoming. We also helped out at our friend, Gil Davis', booth by handing out cigars and water. Gill is a long time friend who is considering running in the next set of state elections. You may remember his name from being Paula Jones' attorney. The Shad Planking is such a tradition and is just so "Virginia," even though there were few political signs and politicians, and a much smaller crowd than usual, it was great fun.



Remember I said there was a story behind this photo last week? Well, here it is...

In July of 1998, my husband (then my boyfriend of six years), and I had gone to New York for a wedding and had also "worked in" a Mets vs. Phillies game. (I'm a Mets fan and he is a Phillies fan.) Well, typical of things that happen to me.....



During the game, JP went on a "refreshment run." While he was gone, one of the Mets' sports commentators and his camera crew came up and asked me if I had ever been to a Mets game before. I said, "No", so he proceeded to tell me how to play a "Hat Trick Game" and asked me if I would mind being on camera. Once I found out I could stay in the stadium and not go down on the field, I said, "Sure, let's do it."

Basically, the "Hat Trick Game" is "3-Card Monty," but they hide the baseball under a Mets cap and shuffle them around graphically on the scoreboard. Then you have to poll the crowd and see which one they think you should choose. You win, you get a prize.

Now, you have to picture Shea stadium. The scoreboard is HUGE, probably four stories high, and the stands are filled with 40,000 cheering fans! As JP is coming back down the aisle balancing hotdogs and beverages for our friends and me...he looked up at the score-board, and there I was....EVERYWHERE!! He had to wait for the "action" to be over before he could come back down the aisle, so he just sat on the stairs and watched in disbelief. When he finally joined us, he joked about how he couldn't leave me for a second. HA! It was CLASSIC!

To top it all off...I LOST! I went from 40,000 fans cheering me on, to 40,000 fans booing me. All in good fun. What was amazing was that people actually recognized me and stopped to speak as we were leaving the park. Proved to me the power of the media. I was probably on the screen for 3-5 minutes tops, and people remembered. Scary. Unfortunately, I had the camera with me when all of this happened, so I didn't get a photo for my "Forrest Gump Table," but later, we did get a photo with "Mr. Met," the Mets' mascot. I also won two tickets to the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown. Anyway, it was hilarious One of those things you just can't explain. JP still just shakes his head when it is mentioned...

Have a wonderful week end and stay out of the heat!

Remember, life is short...we need to make it a good one.
Grow in peace and wisdom.
Your Friday Friend,

Judi Godsey

PS. NOTE OF CAUTION... 20 employees were fired from The New York Times here in Norfolk for sending lewd and indecent e-mails. (To my knowledge, none of the 20 were on our list - even though some of the attorneys who represent the company were!) I have asked each and every one of you on this list to tell me if these "Follies" place you in jeopardy, or even if they offend you. Please understand that they are intended to be light-hearted and are not mean-spirited in any way. If you are ever offended, do not hesitate to ask to be taken off the Friday list.

PSS. If you send a joke and I don't use it, it is because it has been used before, and I try not to repeat. Remember, I have been sending these since August of 1997. You tend to go through huge numbers of jokes that way.

Disclaimer: When anyone asks if I type all of these jokes, the answer is, "No!" I cut and paste one evening during the week (30 minutes, TOPS). I don't have time to sit, read, and retype jokes all day! If you would like to see a small portion of what I actually do, look up our homepage at www.chcs.pvt.k12.va.us and check out the Soundings section, a publication I produce four times a year which pretty much recaps most of what I am involved in.

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