

Hey!

Wow! What a couple of weeks. As I type this note to you, we are being pelted with ice, sleet, and snow! Here in Virginia Beach! We will see what the morning brings...

Thanksgiving was blissful. I missed my family, but will see them soon. Jessica is going to see my mom and her dad's dad before Christmas since she is out of school and since the restaurant where she is a hostess is so busy during Christmas and New Year's. JP and I are going to Mississippi over Christmas day for a few days, and my son comes home from Colorado for New Year's. Christmas is one of the biggest seasons for Keystone, especially this year since they have had more snow already than the entire season last year.

I looked up the website for Keystone a couple of weeks ago to check their snow fall and noticed that they have "Mountain Cams!" How cool! I check them almost everyday now to see if it is snowing. When I talked with Jeremy last, I told him about them, and he didn't even know they were there. The last photo is taken every day about 1:03 or so, so I told him to make a sign and stand there one day so I would see it when I checked it out. I'm still waiting...(smile).

OK, back to Thanksgiving and the last couple of weeks...

Thanksgiving morning, I awoke to JP packing his gear for the big football game. He was so excited, nervous, testy, and happy all rolled in to one. It was in the low 40's and the wind was blowing, but it was a bright, sunny day. Perfect for football!

He left for the game about 8:45, but I got three phone calls before he got to the stadium. He called to say he stopped at K-Mart to buy a football for all of the guys on the team to sign...(cool idea). And then he called twice about things he had forgotten. (He actually came back to the house to get them.) Then he called when he got there because he had forgotten his ticket to get in...

Like they wouldn't see the football uniform and know he had bought a ticket!



JP is Number 15.

Friday Pollies

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Anyway, once he got in the locker room and got settled, the morning was nice and quiet. Jessica came over and we headed over and timed it right as the players were being introduced.

I was so proud of him! He looked so good in his uniform. Not only that, but here is an article that appeared in a very prominent place in the Sports Section of the Virginian-Pilot. **ONLY JP COULD RATE A FULL ARTICLE AND HEADLINES FOR PLAYING A FOOTBALL GAME AT 45! Amazing!**

Charity Bowl rookie finds holiday spirit

Before serving up meals to the needy, Beach man will play in Turkey Day game

BY CHIC RUBIN

THE VIRGINIAN-PILOT

Among the 20 rookies who will appear in the 35th annual Joy Fund Charity Bowl on Thanksgiving, J. P. Godsey of Virginia Beach may be the only one doing double duty charity work that day.

In addition to appearing in his first game at age 45, he also will help serve a holiday dinner to more than 400 less-fortunate folks at the Berkeley Community Center.

"I'm not much of a football player anymore; I'm more into charity work," Godsey said on a cell phone Tuesday as he drove around picking up turkeys that will be distributed to another 75-100 needy families through the Richard Hassell

Foundation. "I just thought playing in the game would be a good thing to do. It's a wonderful charity. It should be a blast as long as I don't get hurt."

The game, which benefits the Virginian-Pilot's Joy Fund, begins at 11 a.m. at the Center for Effective Learning on Witchduck Road in Virginia Beach. Former athletes and coaches from the Southeastern District will take on a team of players from the Eastern and Beach districts. Tickets are \$5.

Godsey isn't the only rookie making a belated debut in the game. Stephen Shipp, Oscar Smith (Class of 1975), and Jim Bordeaux (Princess Anne, '79) are other fortynsomethings taking the field for the first time.

But, unlike Shipp and Bordeaux, Godsey, didn't attend a local high school. He grew up in Buechannon, W.Va., before going on to play football at West Virginia Wesleyan and later becoming an unofficial practice player with the

Washington Federals of the defunct United States Football League.

The only reason Godsey is eligible to play in the Charity Bowl is "because I've helped some other guys coach, and they allow you to play if you've done that," he said.

"I've wanted to play in this game for years."

Godsey, a defensive back during his playing days, is listed as a 6-foot, 192-pound tight end from Cape Henry. Class of 1975, on the Charity Bowl roster.

"I guess people are going to look at that say, 'Who the heck is this guy? Cape Henry doesn't play football,'" said Godsey, now a financial planner. "I just used that because my wife works there and I love the school."

Godsey says he doesn't plan on embarrassing himself in the game.

"Hey, I can play a couple of series and some special teams," he said. "I'm in fair shape and I can still run, so why not play?"



JP in the center of the picture...playing the "Up-Back"... Notice the ambulance on the side line! HA!



This is one of my favorite because the game was over and JP was OK. Actually, he played a great game. This photo is of JP and our very dear friend, Robert Woodhouse. Robert is amazing, himself. He is a fourth grade teacher where I am an administrator, and he is also the HEAD of Security for every concert and major event that happens in Norfolk or Virginia Beach. Truly a “Gentle Giant!” But trust me, you wouldn’t want to cross him!

Instead of second string tight end as we thought, JP ended up playing first string on three of the four “Special Teams!” That meant he got a lot more playing time.

And yes, he is already starting his “strategy” for next year. I guess that means we have established a new Thanksgiving tradition....we will see. I am just not sure how much testosterone I can stand.

OK, onward...I promised photos from my 50th....but I honestly don’t have many. We were too busy to take many photos. Here is one, I will share, though. This was very LATE after SEVERAL chocolate martinis! Man, those things are dangerous! Thank Heavens these ladies weren’t headed anywhere that night. There were so many moments like that with different friends during the weekend. It was very special!





Betty Weaver, Larry Greenhaw, and Judi Godsey, growing up in a GREAT childhood environment.

I am so lucky! - -
A beauty queen for a “big” sister and a sports hero for a “big”brother!

And see the front door? We actually had an unwritten rule that Betty was the top window, Larry was the middle, and me, of course, the bottom!

Well, it is the Christmas season. We climbed up in the attic and got down the 80 or so boxes stored above! Now the house is totally destroyed, and I am secretly hoping for a blizzard so that I can have an extra day to straighten this mess out!

As I type this, “The P” is outside, YES, in the sleet and snow, stringing more lights. If you recall, we WON FIRST PLACE for the entire area last year. Well, I am telling you, the pressure is on! Not only do we have all of last year’s lights, but one of the neighbors moved and sold JP all of his lights for \$25. I kid you not....Chevy Chase has NOTHING on my husband. We even hired an electrician to “rig” a special box to accommodate all of the wires! (Somebody HELP me!) I will be sure to keep you posted!

OK, I promised a look at my first paintings. Here they are. I have a LONG way to go, but it is the most relaxing thing I have ever done in my life. After reading the FOLLIES for several years, I am sure you can understand why I love it so much.

Now, don’t laugh...I am just learning how to mix paints and test acrylics and oils. Have NO training and NO talent. The only thing I have ever painted are my finger nails...

Friday Follies

Number one.



Number two.



Number three.





Think **SNOW!**
Talk with you next week!

It is time for Christmas Follies for the next few weeks. I hope you enjoy them and have splendid Christmas Holiday Season!

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!

Friday Follies