**HARE TODAY**

**THE LEVERETT HOUSE NEWSLETTER**

**WEEK OF DECEMBER 8—12, 2003**

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**Is This A Town in Massachusetts or a Type of Cheese?**

Kernhem

CORRECT ANSWER ON REVERSE SIDE

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**Woman Hasn’t Slept For 8 Years**

Doctors in Romania say they are baffled after examining a woman who claims she has not slept a wink for eight years. Maria Stelica, 54, started going to see doctors at her home in Bodeasa after developing insomnia when her mother died eight years ago. She said: ‘At first I couldn’t sleep even though I tried because I was frightened. I would dream about my mother, but after a while I did not need it anymore, and not even sleeping pills can put me to sleep now.’ Doctors, who have run clinical tests, confirmed her story appeared genuine but could offer no medical explanation for her condition. One told newspaper Curierul National: ‘We cannot understand why she cannot sleep. We cannot explain this phenomenon.’

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**England Wins Elephant Polo World Championships**

England has won the World Elephant Polo Championships in the dying moments of the cup final. After two 10-minute chukkas and the match level at 4-4 at full time, the captain of the four-strong team scored the killer goal in the sudden death phase of the tournament. The World Elephant Polo Association (WEPA) championships, held in Nepal, is now in its 22nd year and was watched by 8,000 spectators. The week-long event took place at Tiger Tops Jungle Lodge in the Royal Chitwan National Park and teams from 18 countries took part. The rules are the same as polo, except competitors use longer sticks and the pitch is smaller for the slightly less agile beasts. Each player is assisted by a driver or a “mahout” who knows the elephant and is able to steer and control the animal. Rules include swapping elephants with the other side at half time and forbidding the picking up of the ball with a trunk. Today’s winning team, the Tiger Tops Tuskers, represented the Nepalese hosts of the tournament, but comprised four British men.

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**European Workers Wage War Against Christmas Music**

Shop workers’ anger at being forced to listen to hours of Christmas music during the festive period is spreading across Europe. Dutch and German trade unions have now backed the demands by colleagues in Austria who said the combined effect of listening to endless hours of Jingle Bells made staff “aggressive and confrontational”. The Union of Dutch Workers has also opposed what it calls the “terror” of constant Christmas songs. spokesman Gottfried Rieser said: ‘Unlike the clients, the shop workers can’t escape the Christmas muzak which is boosting through the loudspeakers all day long. They feel as if they are terrorised all day. Especially Jingle Bells which is considered the Al Qaida of the shop workers. It arouses aggressive feelings and they are getting an aversion against all Christmas carols. And their family is warned certainly not to play or sing Christmas carols at Christmas.” The union is pleading with retailer to introduce a voluntary code not to play Christmas songs for more than four hours a day. Meanwhile, Germany’s largest trade union for shop workers, verdi, is demanding time off for staff if stores are not prepared to exercise more restraint. spokesman Roland Temper said: “Playing Christmas music should be done in peace and quiet and at the right moment and in the stress of the shop floor it is not the right moment.” He called for extra time off at Christmas to escape the music and said: “There should be breaks where the staff can get a rest from the constant sound of Christmas music.”

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**Grabbing the Apple**

**YOUR WEEKLY RODEO PIC**

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**England Wins Elephant Polo World Championships**

**HARVARD MUSIC PERFORMANCE SERIES PRESENTS**

**guitar & song**

Matt Cantor
Liz Carlisle
David Wax

loker coffeehouse
saturday, december 13
7 pm, free

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**Golden Nuggets**

**TIDBITS OF WISDOM FROM BRYAN’S FAVORITE SITCOM**

Dorothy: Why can’t you sleep on the couch and give Clayton and Doug your room?
Blanche: Are you crazy, what will the neighbours think if they see two men in my bedroom?
Sophia: They’d think it’s Tuesday.

Dorothy: Stanley, what possessed you?
Stan: I love that car. All the memories we have in that car.
The cruising, the drive-ins, the roadtrips...
Sophia: And don’t forget the accident you had in that car.
Stan: What accident?
Sophia: I’ll give you a hint: it costs me ten bucks every Christmas, and still calls me grandma.
**Hare Today**

**Showdown Showdown—Vote Now!**

*FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 8—12, 2003*

**Submit**

Got something to say, buddy?

Contact Bryan & Chris at news@leverett.harvard.edu by Friday evening for publication in next week’s issue.

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**IM Games This Week**

*B* BASKETBALL: TUESDAY@8:30 v. Eliot in MAC

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL: TUESDAY@7:30 v. Kirkland in MAC

*A* B-BALL: TUESDAY@8:30 v. Currier in QRC

6” B-BALL: WEDNESDAY@6:00 v. Dudley in MAC

ICE HOCKEY: SUNDAY, Dec. 14@12:00 v. Eliot

NO Squash game this week. Next Squash game is Thu., 1/8@7:30 v. Quincy.

GO LEVERETT!

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**The Leverett IFOCE Eating Challenge!**

**Your Weekly Chance to Beat the Best From the International Federation of Competitive Eating**

Think you’ve got the guts? Then dive into the salad bar and see how you stack up against these IFOCE heavyweight titles.

- **Cheesecake**
  - 50.5 ¼ lb. cheesecakes
  - 6 minutes
  - Eric Booker

- **Doughnuts**
  - 49 glazed
  - 8 minutes
  - Eric Booker

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**Life Sentence Quashed After Jurors Use Dictionary**

A thief who was sentenced to life in jail has had his conviction quashed after it turned out the jury had looked up the words intent and burglary in an old dictionary. The jurors used old dictionaries, written in the 1960s and 1970s with definitions that differ from how the words are defined in law. Washington State Court of Appeals has ruled that "by consulting home dictionaries for definitions of legal terms," the jury had committed misconduct. On the fourth day of jury deliberations, a bailiff overheard two jurors talking about having looked up "intent" in their home dictionaries. They were told not to discuss what they had learned, and deliberations continued. The bailiff then learned a third juror had been discussing with other jurors another definition for burglary that she had looked up in her dictionary. The trial judge found no reason to reverse the verdict. But the Court of Appeals has disagreed and has ordered a re-trial. "The right of trial by jury under our state constitution means a trial by an unbiased and unprejudiced jury, free of disqualified jury misconduct," Judge Anne Ellington wrote in the decision. "A jury commits misconduct when it considers information that is outside all the evidence admitted at trial, either orally or by document." Defendant Franklin Roubideaux already had two convictions for robbery and vehicular homicide. Under the state’s three-strikes law, he was sentenced to life in prison, reports Seattle Times. “It was ludicrous to reverse on this basis,” said Royce Buckingham of the Whatcom County Prosecutor’s office. “It took weeks and five attorneys. The things that they looked up didn’t change the outcome at all.”

**ANSWER: IS THIS A TOWN IN MASSACHUSETTS OR A TYPE OF CHEESE? (SEE REVERSE SIDE FIRST)**

is very soft and supple, with a mild taste.

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**Prostitute Wins Millionaire Show**

A prostitute has won a record sum on the German version of Who Wants to Be a Millionaire. Claudia Drechselis, from Bremen, won the equivalent of £350,000 - the highest amount so far this year on the show. But the 10 million Germans who saw the show included several customers of the 40-year-old who instantly recognised her. They called RTL television station and gave details of the internet site where she advertised her services. After being tackled by German media, the new winner admitted she had been working as a prostitute but added that the prize money meant she could now quit. She said: “This chapter is now closed for me. With the money I won at the show I want to start a new life. “I am not proud of having worked as a prostitute. But when my boyfriend left me when I was in my thirties, I had no education, no income and heaps of debts. So I started working in this trade.” She had the chance to answer the one million euro question and go for the top prize but elected to keep the 500,000 euros she had already won instead.

**Harvard Summer School 2004 Proctorships Informational Meetings**

The Summer School invites all interested Harvard College sophomores, juniors and seniors to attend one of the following House meetings to learn more about proctoring next summer. Summer school proctors receive free room and board and one 4-unit course tuition-free. Applications will be distributed and questions answered by Chris Queen, Summer School Dean of Students

- **Monday, December 8**
  - 7:00pm Winthrop House, Owen Room
  - 7:30pm Quincy House, Senior Common Room
  - 8:00pm Leverett House, Junior Common Room
  - 8:30pm Adams House, Conservatory

- **Wednesday, January 14**
  - 4:00pm 51 Brattle St., Grossman Common Room

This Dutch cheese is ripened for 30 days in cold, damp rooms. Kernhem

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**SHOWDOG SHOWDOWN—VOTE NOW!**

**Challenger**

- Australian Cattle Dog
  - Ch. Katwala’s Red Men Don’t Wear Plaid

**VS**

- Bull Terrier (White)
  - Ch. Auburn Sham-Rocker

The Bull Terrier kicked the Afghan Hound's shaggy doggie but-tocks (way to pick 'em, J-Ball). Who will win this week? You decide. Submit your vote to news@leverett.harvard.edu today!!!

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