



## No Calculators Required

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### How's that again?

1. Dreams die hard, especially when you're playing for a national championship. ... And it didn't take a lengthy post-game analysis to find out which of the Central Missouri Mules did in the Falcons. All-America guard Ron N. exploded for 38 points and a 5-10 overachiever named Brian P. added 25. Add it up. That's 61 of Central Missouri's 81 points — a certified twin-killing.

2. A New-York bound chartered DC-10 jet with 392 people on board skidded across a traffic-filled highway on takeoff today and burst into flames, killing at least two people and injuring 110 others. ... The DC-10, filled to capacity with 380 passengers and 13 crew members, apparently failed to gain altitude, wobbled low over the end of the runway and then skidded across a highway.

3. Mrs. Ida Florence D. B. of Moorehead Court Apartments, 411 Park St., died at 9:30 p.m. Wednesday in High Point Memorial Hospital after declining 10 years and critical illness of three weeks.

Born April 13, 1913, in Davidson County to Pete and Trina D., she has been a resident of the High Point vicinity most of her life. On Dec. 24, 1924, she was married to Thomas Ritzel B.

4. Mrs. Ada Whitt H., 34, of Hillsborough, died Sunday. ... Surviving are her husband ... and 39 great-grandchildren.

5. Moved up to sixth in the batting order by manager Dick Williams, the 27-year-old journeyman had three hits and now has four hits in his first seven World Series at bats of his 14-year major-league career. He batted only 80 times during the season.

6. "This may be one of the smallest journalism programs in the world," says Professor William F. Woo, a former editor of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. On average, eight to 15 students enroll in the one-year graduate program.

7. The Senate rejected, 72-73, a move by Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., to require a declaration of war or other congressional approval before U.S. troops could be sent to El Salvador or Nicaragua for combat.

8. The Baltic was a twin-screw steamer that weighed about 24,000 tons. It was smaller than the Titanic — 725.9 feet long and 75 feet wide, compared to the Titanic's 882-foot length and 92-foot width. Still, it would have covered the lengths of two football fields and most of a third.

9. State police arrested nine people during the weekend on charges of driving at speeds exceeding 100 mph on the state Thruway during a "cannonball run" cross-country race from Boston to San Diego. ... The arrests, beginning in Syracuse, came after the cars had gone from Boston to Syracuse — about 300 miles — in less than 90 minutes.

10. Each of the Franklin Street stones is about 4 inches thick, weighing about as much as a hefty paperweight.

### Percentage problems

11. Another factor in the change of drinking habits has been a nationwide crackdown on drunken driving. Police can stop any motorist to administer a so-called random breath test. If the test shows that the content of alcohol in the driver's blood is 5 parts or more per 100, then the driver can be arrested.

12. Durham's 37 murders in 2005 gave it the highest homicide rate, 18.9 per 100,000 population, of any North Carolina city. Only Charlotte, with 84 killings, had more, but its rate was 12.7 percent.

13. Yount finished 3-for-4 for a .331 average, just short of Wilson's .332. ... But in Yount's final at-bat of the regular season, the Brewers' shortstop was hit by a pitch, his average remained one percentage point below Wilson, and the Royals' outfield had his first batting title.

14. Lederle Laboratories of Wayne, N.J., made it official Tuesday, dropping its price for the DTP childhood vaccine in North Carolina by more than 200 percent. The price — \$3.40 a dose to the state and \$3.67 a dose to private physicians — is the lowest in the nation, company officials said.

### **Terminology troubles:**

15. In August 2003, another team with 11 members arrived and hired 35 villagers to help with what would be the equivalent of an elaborate — and potentially explosive — archaeological dig. More than 550 square yards of soil were dug up and carefully sifted.

16. It's doubtful that anyone would have bought "Twenty-One's" scam if Van Doren had been locked in the isolation booth to sweat out the sum of five times two.

17. Located at 6,000 feet elevation, Coral Pink Sand Dunes are the largest sand formations on the Colorado Plateau. The main concentration of dunes lies within the 3,730 square acres of the park.

18. Advancing issues outnumbered decliners by an 8-to-5 margin on the New York Stock Exchange, where volume came to 333.39 million shares, down sharply from Friday's hectic pace.

19. "We just died out there," Young said of the final half in which Tech watched a 12-point advantage take a 360-degree swing.

20. In Orange County, the report shows, people were six times more likely to have had a therapy session in the past year than the average North Carolina resident. The state, on average, reported 351 therapy sessions last year for every 1,000 residents, but Orange County recorded 2,106 therapy sessions for every 1,000 residents.

21. Republican candidate for governor John Faso has about \$1.4 million on hand, about 10 times less than front-running Democrat Eliot Spitzer, an aide to the former state Assembly Minority Leader said Friday. Spitzer aides said earlier this week the state attorney general's new filing will show he has about \$15 million on hand, with about \$9 million raised over the past six months.

22. Young black men and women did less than half as well as whites in math and verbal tests given by the U.S. Government to a representative national sample of the population aged 18 through 23, the Pentagon said yesterday.

Overall, blacks aged 18 to 23 scored in the 24th percentile in the tests in question. Whites in the same age group, overall, placed in the 56th percentile.

### **Approximation problems:**

23. If you were a citizen of the U.S.S.R. 20 years ago today, however — or anywhere else, for that matter — you wouldn't have heard anything about the dark radioactive cloud rising into air and beginning to spread over more than 77,220 square miles.

24. The bunkers were built into an old rock quarry north of the town of Karma, an insurgent

stronghold in Anbar Province that lies near the city of Falluja. The bunker system is 558 feet by 902 feet, nearly equal to a quarter of the Empire State Building's office space, making it the largest underground insurgent hide-out to be discovered in at least the past year, if not during the entire war, said Capt. Jeffrey S. Pool, a spokesman for the Second Marine Division.

25. The United States dropped two atomic bombs — the first on Hiroshima on Aug. 6, and the second three days later on Nagasaki, about 614 miles southwest of Tokyo. The twin bombings led to Japan's Aug. 15, 1945, surrender ending the war.

### **Issues of scope**

26. Two of the nation's early presidents — James K. Polk (1845-49) and Andrew Johnson (1865-69) — were born in the Tar Heel State and served during critical times in the nation's history. Polk pushed an expansionist vision during his term, adding about 500 million square miles to the Western United States.

27. Morris, a commercial real estate broker with 34 years of experience, said during a presentation to the Friends of Downtown on Thursday that the average price for rental property is about \$25 per square foot downtown. That means the renter of a 2,000-square-foot space pays \$50,000 each month — an expense that does not include operating costs like inventory or employee salaries.

28. Mexico is the biggest buyer of goods manufactured in the Kansas City area. The value of goods going from the Kansas City area to Mexico in 1998 totaled \$8.4 million.

29. Wholesale gas prices on Friday were about \$4 per million cubic feet, down 10 percent from last week's prices.

### **Trends and tendencies**

30. More drivers are pitting their 1.5-ton vehicles against 5,000-ton trains and losing, even as North Carolina spends millions of dollars a year to close or add gates at unprotected railroad crossings.

For the first time in at least five years, the number of train-vehicle crashes in the state rose in 2000, with slightly more than 38 percent occurring at crossings protected by gates.

Cars and trains collided 112 times at public and private crossings in North Carolina last year, killing 14 people and injuring 22, according to the Federal Railroad Administration. That is 13 percent more than in 1999 and the most collisions since 1997.

### **Discussion ...**

- 1 and 2. The numbers don't add up.
- 3 and 4. Married at 11? Great grandmother at 34?
5. A major leaguer at 13?
6. That's too wide a range for an average.
7. How many senators are there?
8. A football field is 120 yards long, or 360 feet. Two football fields would be 720 feet. The ship would come nowhere near covering most of a third football field. (That would still be true if you thought of a football field as being only 100 yards long.)
9. Traveling 300 miles an hour in 90 minutes would mean averaging 200 miles per hour. The fastest Indy 500 ever was run at an average speed of 185 miles per hour.
10. Paperweights come in all sizes. How does that comparison work?
11. What is meant is .05 percent. That would be 5 parts per 10,000.
12. With a 12.7 percent murder rate, Charlotte would be obliterated in a few years.
13. One-tenth of a percentage point. To change the decimal to a percentage, shift the period two digits to the right.
14. If the price was lowered 200 percent, Lederle would have to be paying people to take the product. Nothing can be reduced by more than 100 percent.
15. Quantities of soil would be measured in cubic yards.
16. Five times two is a product. You add numbers together to get a sum.
17. "Square acres" is redundant. An acre is a measure of area.
18. 8 to 5 is a ratio. The margin is the number representing the difference between two numbers.
19. A reversal represents 180 degrees, not 360.
20. Six times as likely, not more likely. If it were "more likely," you'd multiply the number by six and add that to the original number.
21. How can something be 10 times less? It's mathematically impossible.
22. A percentile is simply a rank ordering. It gives you no indication of how much better one person did over another.
23. How can a number that large be so precise?. The original number was 20,000 square kilometers. How can a number precise to one digit be precise to five digits? I'd round it to 77,000 square miles or even 80,000.
24. Was the measuring that precise in meters? It looks like 170 meters by 275 meters, an estimate to the nearest 5 meters.

25. How can you measure the distance that precisely? From what point in Tokyo to what point in Nagasaki? By what route?

26. Very roughly, the entire U.S. is 3,000 by 3,000 miles or 9 million square miles.

27. Think of what your mortgage payment is. Paying \$50,000 a month is far too high for 2,000 square feet of space.

28. The Kansas City metropolitan area has a population of nearly 2 million. That makes \$8.4 million seem pretty small for total sales to Mexico. (The correct answer was \$840 million.)

29. Buying a million cubic feet of anything for \$4 seems impossible. The correct figure, in 2000, was \$4 per 1,000 cubic feet. The writer was confused by the abbreviation mcf — but "m" in this abbreviation equals 1,000 — as in the Roman numeral.

30. The lead is grossly unfair. A one-year increase in deaths after years of decreases in no way indicates a trend.