

## **Guilty As Charged**

Nearly 10 percent of college graduates surveyed in a poll believe that TV's "Judge Judy" (real name Judith Sheindlin) serves on the U.S. Supreme Court. Sheindlin is an American lawyer made popular as the judge on a court show called "Judge Judy." The show features Sheindlin handling small disputes in a courtroom, but Sheindlin does not serve on the U.S. Supreme Court. The poll, conducted by the American Council of Trustees and Alumni in August 2015 but released in January 2016, concluded from the 1,000 people surveyed that college graduates "are alarmingly ignorant of America's history and heritage." The survey also found that only 28.4 percent of college graduates correctly identify the father of the Constitution as James Madison. About 59 percent of college graduates surveyed believe the father of the Constitution was Thomas Jefferson, who was actually the principal writer of the Declaration of Independence. The survey also found that almost 60 percent of college graduates couldn't correctly identify a requirement for ratifying a constitutional amendment, and 40 percent of college graduates didn't know that Congress has the power to declare war. Additionally, the poll revealed that less than 50 percent of college graduates surveyed know that presidential impeachments are tried before the U.S. Senate. (CNN)

## **Iron-ic**

Iron from melting icebergs floating off Antarctica actually helps remove atmospheric carbon dioxide

causing the global warming that melts the icebergs in the first place. It's a strange feedback loop. If only the rest of nature worked this well. (Earthweek.com news from the University of Sheffield, U.K.)

## **Waffle House**

Battling a bad case of writer's block, I sat down to breakfast one day last week, fired up the Jumpstart Java, and spread out the morning newspaper for a bit of inspiration. What grabbed my attention was a Wall Street Journal piece on Carolina Panthers practically living in a Waffle House in Charlotte, North Carolina. Apparently, the team (like most Southern born and bred NFL players) prefer the Waffle House chain over all other restaurants because it serves breakfast 24 hours a day. This suits the football players' crazy travel and workout schedules, not to mention their need for lots of filling food. Many players will finish a plate of eggs, ham, toast, and cheesy grits, then make a sandwich for later with the leftovers. So despite their lofty NFL salaries, they still value those second helpings. And in addition to good, cheap comfort food round-the-clock, Waffle House offers the players a home away from home, a good place to hang out. One NFL player interviewed in the Journal story who had moved to Oregon talked about how devastated he was that the only place to eat in his new hometown was a Denny's, and he mourned the loss of his beloved Waffle House. How about a Waffle House right here in Pacifica in the old Denny's?

## **Swami Sez**

“My doctor told me that jogging would add years to my life. I think he was right. I feel 10 years older already.”

(Milton Berle)

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