

Nuggets of Fun and Nostalgia for Treasure Valley Golden-Agers

An Unlikely Friendship

History is messy. Looking back it is easy to judge and dismiss individuals based on labels and affiliations. You'd probably be surprised to find that a German track star at the 1936 Berlin Olympics became friends with an African American track star despite the presence of angry, racist leader Adolf Hitler at the games. American Jesse Owens and Luz Long, the German model athlete, clashed directly when Nazi Germany hosted the Olympics and to everyone's surprise quickly became friends even if all nations expected a rivalry between them.



The long jump duel took place on August 4, 1936, in front of 100,000 spectators. On one side was Long, the 23-year-old athlete who held the European record at the time. On the other hand, the 22-year-old Owens, the holder of the world record.



As Owens writes in his 1970 autobiography, a key moment occurred during qualifying in the long jump when he had only one jump left, after a missed jump and one that was too short. Long then came to his aid, the American athlete remembers, and gave him some advice that helped him get through the test.

(Continued on page 2)

Gene Autry's Cowboy Code

1. The Cowboy must never shoot first, hit a smaller man, or take unfair advantage.
2. He must never go back on his word, or a trust confided in him.
3. He must always tell the truth.
4. He must be gentle with children, the elderly, and animals.
5. He must not advocate or possess racially or religiously intolerant ideas.
6. He must help people in distress.
7. He must be a good worker.
8. He must keep himself clean in thought, speech, action, and personal habits.
9. He must respect women, parents, and his nation's laws.
10. The Cowboy is a patriot.



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Extra Motivation



Two little old ladies Dolly and Ruby were talking about their grandchildren.

Dolly said, “Each year I send each of my grandchildren a card with a generous check inside for their birthday. I never hear from them. I never receive a thank you message.”

Ruby replied, “I send my grandchildren a very generous birthday check, too. I hear from them within a week after they receive it. In fact, they each pay me a personal visit.”

“Wow! How come?” asked Dolly.

“Very simple solution...I don't sign the check!”

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After besting Long and taking home gold in the long jump, Owens was famously photographed saluting the American flag. Long stood behind him, offering the Nazi salute.

Long publicly embraced Owens while even American President Franklin D. Roosevelt didn't send him a congratulatory telegram after his impressive wins.

“It took a lot of courage for him to befriend me in front of Hitler,” Owens later said in an interview. “You can melt down all the medals and cups I have and they wouldn't be a plating on the 24-karat friendship I felt for Lutz Long at that moment. Hitler must have gone crazy watching us embrace.”

The two remained friends, keeping in contact as much of world plunged into war. Long joined the German Army and was stationed in North Africa before being killed in action on July 14, 1943, during the Allied invasion of Sicily. Five years after the end of the war, the German Red Cross discovered Long's grave on the Mediterranean island.

In his last letter to Owens, Long, seemingly aware of his impending fate, wrote, “My heart tells me, if I be honest with you, that this is the last letter I shall ever write. If it is so, I ask you something. It is a something so very important to me. It is you go to Germany when this war done, someday find my (son) Karl [Kai], and tell him about his father. Tell him, Jesse, what times were like when we not separated by war. I am saying—tell him how things can be between men on this earth.”

In 1951 Owens traveled to Germany to meet Long's then 10-year-old son, Kai, fulfilling his promise to indeed tell the young boy how things could be. Owens eventually served as best man at Kai's wedding, and the two families remain in contact to this day. Owens passed away on March 31, 1980.



ADVICE FROM KIDS:

- If you want a kitten, start out by asking for a horse—Nicki, 8
- When your mom is mad at your dad, don't let her brush your hair - Tayla, 11

*The Chef on TV just said,
“Where's there's fat, there's flavor.”
I know he was talking about food,
but I took it as a compliment!*



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FROM AN EMPLOYEE EVALUATION:
"He sets low personal standards and then consistently fails to achieve them."



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"Why English Is Hard to Learn"

We'll begin with *box*; the plural is *boxes*,
But the plural of *ox* is *oxen*, not *oxes*.
One fowl is a *goose*, and two are called *geese*,
Yet the plural of *moose* is never called *meese*.

You may find a lone *mouse* or a house full of *mice*;
But the plural of *house* is *houses*, not *hice*.
The plural of *man* is always *men*,
But the plural of *pan* is never *pen*.

If I speak of a *foot*, and you show me two *feet*,
And I give you a *book*, would a pair be a *beek*?
If one is a *tooth* and a whole set are *teeth*,
Why shouldn't two *booths* be called *beeth*?

If the singular's *this* and the plural is *these*,
Should the plural of *kiss* be ever called *keese*?

We speak of a *brother* and also of *brethren*,
But though we say *mother*, we never say *methren*.
Then the masculine pronouns are *he*, *his*, and *him*;
But imagine the feminine . . . *she*, *shis*, and *shim*!



— Anonymous

Punctuation Matters



An English Professor wrote these words on the chalkboard and asked the students to punctuate it correctly:

"A woman without her man is nothing."

All of the males in the class wrote:

"A woman, without her man, is nothing."

All of the females in the class wrote:

"A woman: without her, man is nothing."

Punctuation is makes a big difference!

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“Mr. Simpson, I have reviewed your case very carefully,” said the divorce court judge. “I have decided to give your wife \$750 a week.”

“That’s very fair, your Honor,” replied Mr. Simpson. “ And every now and then I’ll try to send her a few bucks myself!”

He Missed the Show

The young man lay sprawled across three entire seats in the old movie theater.

When the usher came by and noticed this, he whispered to the man, “Sorry, sir, but you’re only allowed one seat.”

The man groaned but didn’t budge.

The usher became more impatient.

“Young man, if you don’t get up from there, I’m going to have to call the manager.”

The fellow just groaned.

The usher marched briskly back up the aisle.

In a moment he returned with the manager. Together the two of them tried repeatedly to move the man, but with no success.

Finally, they summoned the police.

The cop surveyed the situation briefly then asked, “All right buddy, what’s your name?”

“Nick,” the young man moaned.

“Where ya from, Nick?”

With pain in his voice, Nick replied, “The balcony.”

Milestones



Gloria Michaels
March 30, 1931—91 years
Weiser

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Kay Hartnett
Nov 6, 1941—80 years
Weiser

How to Avoid Mixed Metaphors

It’s not rocket surgery. First, get all your ducks on the same page. After all, you can’t make an omelet without breaking stride.

Be sure to watch what you write with a fine-tuned comb. Check and re-check until the cows turn blue. It’s as easy as falling off a piece of cake.

Don’t worry about opening up a whole hill of beans; you can burn that bridge when you come to it, if you follow where I’m coming from.

Concentrate! Keep your door closed and your enemies closer. Don’t take the moral high horse: if the metaphor fits, walk a mile in it!

Say What?

Most people could care less that people say irregardless. This misuse should have been nipped in the butt long ago. Maybe they are just escape goats for the lack of education.

But even though I have been biting my time here, cringing at the next foe paw while they get off scotch free, it’s truly a mute point these days.

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