

## VISITING THE STATE CAPITALS YET AGAIN

DARRYL FRANCIS

Sutton, Surrey, England

darrylfrancis@yahoo.co.uk

In the February 2002 Word Ways I explored transdeletions and transadditions of the names of the state capitals. How close could I get to finding 50 one-letter transdeletions? Where one-letter transdeletions could not be located, what were the fewest number of letters that needed to be deleted to effect a transdeletion? How close could I get to finding 50 one-letter transadditions? Where one-letter transadditions could not be located, what were the fewest number of letters that needed to be added to effect a transaddition? My previous article offered transdeletions for all 50 state capital names, involving deletion of a total of 71 letters. The article also offered transadditions for 43 of the state capital names, involving addition of 85 letters.

I have found longer transdeletions for Cheyenne, Hartford, Indianapolis, Jefferson City and Nashville, and shorter transadditions for Baton Rouge, Carson City, Cheyenne, Columbia, Lincoln, Little Rock, Montgomery, Nashville, Springfield, Tallahassee and Topeka. I have also found transadditions for the missing capitals Frankfort, Harrisburg, Honolulu, Indianapolis and Salt Lake City, leaving only Jefferson City and Oklahoma City. The new table is given on the next page.

Note that these improvements reduce the number of letters deleted from 71 to 64, and the number of letters added from 85 to 82, despite the addition of five new capitals.

Sources for the new words are given below:

Webster's Third: anoncillo, baculiform, cheeney, coenenchyme, dispensationalism, kinaesthetically

Webster's Second: allaesthesia, halvelings, myringotome, nasioinial, philosophuncule

American Heritage Dictionary (4th edition, 2000): narcotrafficking

New Oxford Dictionary of English: David Attenborough, English naturalist; Emil Zatopek, Czech runner

Oxford English Dictionary (2nd edition): ticket-collector

Rand McNally Commercial Atlas and Marketing Guide (98th edition, 1967): Sanville, town in Henry County VA

Times Index Gazetteer of the World: Harford, towns in Cortland County NY and Susquehanna County PA; Harrisonburg, city in Rockingham County VA

Others: Jeffreyton, village in Pembrokeshire, Wales; nonscarcity (8 Internet citations), self-depriving (91 Internet citations)

Many of the improvements in this article were found using a software package called The Electronic Alveary. This is a collection of words, names, terms and phrases, based on a variety of unspecified sources. It comes with a range of functionality to help in the search for transposals, transadditions, cryptograms, palindromes, etc. It can be highly recommended, although any words or terms it suggests need independent verification in named sources.

After the preparation of this article, the editor called my attention to a letter from Sir Jeremy Morse who discovered in the OED two longer transdeletions, METRONYMY for Montgomery and THALASSAL for Tallahassee. Sir Jeremy also found OUTPEAK for Topeka in the OED.

State Capital	State	Longest transdeletion	Number of letters deleted	Shortest transaddition	Number of letters added
ALBANY	New York	BANAL	1	BANALLY	1
ANNAPOLIS	Maryland	SALOPIAN	1	NONSPATIAL	1
ATLANTA	Georgia	ANATTA	1	TARLATAN	1
AUGUSTA	Maine	AUGUST	1	TAUTAUGS	1
AUSTIN	Texas	SAINT	1	TSUNAMI	1
BATON ROUGE	Louisiana	OUTRANGE	2	ATTENBOROUGH	2
BISMARCK	North Dakota	IMBARKS	1	BRICKMASON	2
BOISE	Idaho	BIOS	1	BODIES	1
BOSTON	Massachusetts	BOOST	1	BONITOS	1
CARSON CITY	Nevada	NARCOTICS	1	NONSCARCITY	1
CHARLESTON	West Virginia	CHLORATES	1	CHLORINATES	1
CHEYENNE	Wyoming	CHEENEY	1	COENENCHYME	2
COLUMBIA	South Carolina	ABOULIC	1	BACULIFORM	2
COLUMBUS	Ohio	OSCULUM	1	SUBMUCOSAL	2
CONCORD	New Hampshire	CONDOR	1	CONCORDS	1
DENVER	Colorado	NEVER	1	RAVENED	1
DES MOINES	Iowa	DEMONESS	1	MODERNISES	1
DOVER	Delaware	RODE	1	OVERDO	1
FRANKFORT	Kentucky	AFFRONT	2	NARCOTRAFFICKING	7
HARRISBURG	Pennsylvania	AIRBRUSH	2	HARRISONBURG	2
HARTFORD	Connecticut	HARFORD	1	FORTHWARD	1
HELENA	Montana	ANELE	1	LETHEAN	1
HONOLULU	Hawaii	HULLOO	2	PHILOSOPHUNCULE	7
INDIANAPOLIS	Indiana	NASIOINIAL	2	DISPENSATIONALISM	5
JACKSON	Mississippi	JACKOS	1	JANNOCKS	1
JEFFERSON CITY	Missouri	JEFFREYSTON	2	?	
JUNEAU	Alaska	JAUNE	1	UNJEALOUS	3
LANSING	Michigan	SIGNAL	1	SLANTING	1
LINCOLN	Nebraska	COLLIN	1	ANONCILLO	2
LITTLE ROCK	Arkansas	TRICKLET	2	TICKET-COLLECTOR	5
MADISON	Wisconsin	DAMSON	1	DIAMONDS	1
MONTGOMERY	Alabama	MOTORMEN	2	MYRINGOTOME	1
MONTPELIER	Vermont	INTERLOPE	1	IMPLEMENTOR	1
NASHVILLE	Tennessee	SANVILLE	1	HALVELINGS	2
OKLAHOMA CITY	Oklahoma	HOMOLYTIC	3	?	
OLYMPIA	Washington	MYOPIA	1	PALIMONY	1
PHOENIX	Arizona	PHENIX	1	XENOPHIL	1
PIERRE	South Dakota	RIPER	1	PREMIER	1
PROVIDENCE	Rhode Island	DIVORCEE	2	PINE-COVERED	1
RALEIGH	North Carolina	HAILER	1	LITHARGE	1
RICHMOND	Virginia	CHONDRI	1	MONORCHID	1
SACRAMENTO	California	STRAMACON	1	MACERATIONS	1
SALEM	Oregon	SEAL	1	SAMPLE	1
SALT LAKE CITY	Utah	STATICALLY	2	KINAESTHETICALLY	4
SANTA FE	New Mexico	FASTEN	1	FANTASIE	1
SPRINGFIELD	Illinois	PILFERINGS	1	SELF-DEPRIVING	2
ST PAUL	Minnesota	SPLAT	1	SPATULA	1
TALLAHASSEE	Florida	SEASHELL	3	ALLAESTHESIA	1
TOPEKA	Kansas	ATOKE	1	ZATOPEK	1
TRENTON	New Jersey	ROTTEN	1	UNROTTEN	1
			64		82