COLLOQUY

Dan Tilque has found a 61-letter pangrammatic window in the Dec 5 1903 issue of The Detroit News: "The New York Yankees made their first big move in the off-season, strengthening their rotation by agreeing Thursday to acquire Javier Vasquez from the Montreal E|xpos. For Vasquez, a 27-year-old right-hander, New York sent first basemen Nick J|ohnson, outfielder Juan Rivera and left-hander Randy Choate to Montreal." This beats by two *The Beth Book* record.

Oops! In the May Word Ways, Mike Keith was credited as the author of three anagrams of Shakespeare's Sonnet 117. These originally appeared in the Jan 2004 Graffiti on the Sphinx with the identifying initials MK. The correct author is Meyran Kraus, who originally submitted this material to an anagram forum in Feb 2003. Word Ways apologizes to both MKs for this mixup.

In "Alphanumerically Truthful Equations" on page 202 of this issue, Anil asks readers to find equations of the form a+b = c+d that agree numerically and alphanumerically. For example, 257+80 = 287+50 = 337, and TWO HUNDRED FIFTY-SEVEN plus EIGHTY equals 337 when A=1, B=2, etc. The editor found ten such equations, and conjectures that there are more than one hundred of them. His most interesting example was the non-tautological 297+245 = 270+272 = 542; do others like this exist? Anil points out that there is only one such equation if one instead counts the number of letters in the number words: 1+7 = 4+4 = 8; ONE plus SEVEN and FOUR plus FOUR have eight letters apiece.

The editor omitted a comment from Susan Thorpe in the May Colloquy because of a lack of space. She points out "The number of AEIOU in order words appearing in Word Ways prior to Darryl's article "AEIOU In Order—Again!" is 261, not 170 as asserted by Darryl. He overlooked my article "On Location With AEIOU" in November 2002."

Anil writes "Morice and Zerger (sounds like a vaudeville act!) made good hay of President Harrison Ford, but so many of the examples were stretched that it diluted the impact of the numerous real coincidences. As to the Zachary Challenge, three or four stretched coincidences occurred to me. Zachary Taylor and Harrison Ford have the same number of different letters in their names (9) and each has a triple letter (a,r).They are also connected by the name Elizabeth: E. (Betty) Ford and E. Taylor, fellow White House resident and fellow movie star, respectively. Did ZT and does HF have unrecognized Elizabeths in their lives? I tried to make a minimal-addition anagram true to both; the best I could manage was '**Zachary Taylor, friend o' US** Harrison Ford, a lazy cutey', which required the addition of two letters (e,u) not in their names."

Jeff Grant writes "I don't accept acronyms or initialisms in my palindrome collection. However, I came across an interesting one recently. MAWAN Men Against Women Against Men, a palindromic acronym and a word-unit palindrome."

Jim Puder suggested *Japanese hemlock* as a transaddition for James Polk in Darryl Francis's "Transdeleted and Transadded Presidents" in the Feb 2004 issue. Sir Jeremy Morse came up with a bumper crop of examples:

Andrew Jackson *black jaws of rain-stained granite* (from *Italian Byways* (1883) by J A
        Symonds; see OED jaws))
Zachary Taylor *I'm half crazy, all for the love of you* (line from Daisy Bell, a song of the 1890s)
Millard Fillmore *Milly-Molly-Mandy felt very rich* (from *Milly-Molly-Mandy Spends a Penny*
        (1928) by J L Brisby)
James Buchanan *When the black jaundies shall her mother kill* (from *Juvenal* (1697) by John
        Dryden; see OED jaundice)
James Garfield *called her his sergeant-major* (from *Old Mortality* (1816), by Walter Scott)
Benjamin Harrison *their annual jamboree over the July anniversaries* (from *On the Eve* (1895)
        by W O'Brien; see OED jamboree)
William McKinley *We shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye*
        (I Corinthians xv)
Franklin Roosevelt *from all the circle of young knaves* (from *Vanity Fair* (1848) by W M
        Thackeray; see OED knave)

Anil asks "Did Darryl neglect to compare state weights to capital weights or did he just fail to mention it because there were no matches? I found none, the closest being Frankfort Kentucky (109,110) and Providence Rhode Island (111,109). Ironically the lightest state (Alabama 11) has the heaviest capital (Montgomery 135)! A full twenty-one capitals match *other* states…Eight states have the same number of letters as their capitals. One or more of these might, with a mighty effort, yield up a connecting word ladder. I didn't try, not being much of a Statesman."

Anil submits some "minor addenda" to his self-synonymy articles of February and May:

II-III	**liquorish**	self-affinity (gourmand items) *or* self-opposite (food v. drink) [Liquorish meaning liquor-like is a nonce. Food-wise the word is a debatably apt homophone of licorice.]
IV	**insert, inset**	to put into [insert <L. to join>series; inset <L. to set or seat]
IV	**rein, reign**	to control [reign <L. to rule; rein <L. to hold back; both via ME & OF]

Bluesmanstan writes "Found your site with a Google search on Zzyzx Road. My brothers and I visited Southern California and Vegas about 30 years ago. We found this road name to be unusual and just knew there had to be more to the story. My brother visited this area last year and stopped to take a picture of him next to the sign, which he ultimately enlarged and presented to me on my 50th birthday last year. We have talked about this road for the past years on occasion; I can now tell him the rest of the story thanks to your site. Go Zzyzx Road!" Carrie Weigley emailed "I just read an article about the word Zzyzx, which was made up by 'Doc' Curtis Springer. As the Program Director at Deer Valley YMCA Camp, I'm always searching for new information on the Doc. Before moving to the Mohave, he started a health resort here at our camp called the 'Haven of Rest'. He was quite an interesting character and [made] many of the same claims as he did at the ranch."

Susan Thorpe writes "Wondering what might result by starting with two consecutive numbers [in Austin's May Sumagram article], I found a rhyming sumagram: ONE + TWO –TEN = WOO!"