

MEAN SIDEWALKS 3

ANIL

Perth, Australia

A MEAN SIDEWALK IN MY HOME TOWN

(Mean sidewalks are word- or syllable-unit anagrams that ‘walk’ the meaning sideways; see 16-49.) Holy Name was a high school in my town. It had a star basketball player named Sonny Peters. One big game he was ill, so the local paper headlined it HOLY NAME TO PLAY WITHOUT PETERS, until the Editor noticed how funny this was; despite the Holy name, these kids were not pre-monk eunuchs! So he changed it to HOLY NAME TO PLAY WITH PETERS OUT.



A HARDLINE ARGUMENT

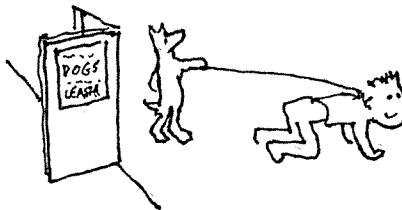
If old again!
 Humpty together
 Dumpty him back
 had been to put
 more been able
 hard- *would've*
 boiled they

“QUIT LAUGHING AND GET SERIOUS!”

O,
 SO
 SOB
 SO BE
 SOBER?
 SOBBER
 SLOBBER!

SEEING-EYE PATRONS?

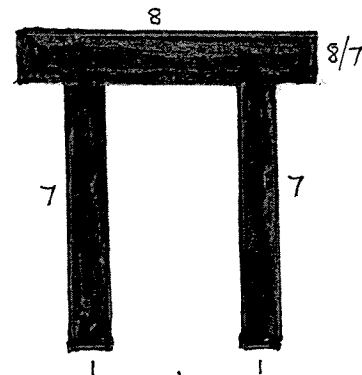
New Scientist cites this sign seen on a Melbourne cafe: “Any patrons that bring dogs must under council policy be on a leash.”



GRAPHICALLY TRUTHFUL PI

Was the letter π chosen to represent pi because it consists of 3 strokes? That’s the approximate and the Bible value of pi. To get 3.14 strokes (in serif) count the curl-up of leg two as a fourth stroke of $\approx 1/7$ (0.14) the length of the others.

A cleaner and more precise way to get 3.14 strokes is in sans-serif font, pictured. Set the legs at 1.0 u relative to the cross bar at 1.14, such as the 7x7x8u stroke pi shown. As drawn the three stroke widths are 1/7 their lengths and also total 3.14 (1+1+8/7), echoing the lengths’ (7+7+8)/7=3.14. Might some standard fonts actually give 3.14 by one of these methods, perhaps even the right line thickness?89



A DOUBLY TRUTHFUL PI