By Jonathan Schmalzbach

ACROSS

sidewalk?

Israeli Abba

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- 15 He went to England instead of 45-Across
- 17 Queen of The Plaza
- 18 For shame!
- 19 Senator held captive for 5 1/2 years in 45-Across
- 20 Jack Kemp's team, hopefully not his legacy
- 23 It was dropped by the government in the '50s
- 24 Nation where Eamon deValera was born
- 25 Senator seriously wounded in WWII
- 28 "Of Thee I Sing" composer's initials
- 30 Angleton, Berg, Chambers, Etc.
- 31 Group attacked by Roberta Trachtenberg
- 32 One ____customer
- 33 Hiram, informally
- 34 Senator seriously wounded in WWII
- 37 First name of Paul Simon's partner
- 38 " ...__o'clock scholar"
- 39 Spending _____
- 41 Senator seriously wounded in 45-Across
- 43 Govt. agcy. headed by Janet Steiger,

- previously Daniel Oliver
- 4 What Louis L'____ ended up with
- 45 Nation whose one-party state Susan Sontag described as "loving" in 1968
- 49 Reps. Roemer and Holden
- 50. Senator seriously wounded in WWII
- This postal service to country dwellers became permanent in 1896
- 52 Coup d'_
- 53 What Como is, Cuomo isn't
- 54 Network whose news anchor did not go to college

DOWN

- Part of the nickname of two Haitian
 ex-leaders
- 2 Zero
- 3 What Clay became for Cassius
- 4 Publicist of 17-Across admitted in court he had this feeling for her shoes
- 5 Heinz Holliger is the world's most prominent soloist playing this instrument.
- 6 Jack did it in 1960, Bobby in 1968, Ted in 1969
- State whose eastern part is Republican, western Democratic
- 8 Aspirin brand
- 9 Slang for something that's cool in the union's smallest state

- 10 "____ Want for Christmas"
- 11 What Bill does on Hillary
- 17 1201, to Cato
- 19 Asian peninsula
- 20 President wounded in WWII
- 21 Motto of Alger Hiss
- 22 ____ of the land
- 26 Largest circulation black magazine
- 27 Charlie Ward's school
- 28 Father and son senators from 7-Down
- 29 Washington scandal in shorthand
- 32 One of David Kessler's many enemies
- 34 "My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom___" (Psalm 91)
- 35 At no time, poetically
- 36 Regard highly
- 38 Some regulators want to ban this from magazines
- 40 Bill Clinton won with 43 of this
- 41 Patriotic singer Smith
- 42 What 2% of all 1998 Calif. cars cannot do at all
- 43 What Kay Hutchison did to Lloyd Bentsen's term
- 15 Shakespeare's radio network
- 46 Roosevelt's bureau. Hunter's friend.
- 47 Home of flying B-'s, F-'s and C-'s
- 48 Year in the reign of Queen Elizabeth
- 50 Major city whose mayor changed names in midst of term

The solution for BioGraph is on page 85.

Smoking gun that Simpson left on the

Where Colin Powell lived most of his

Communism killed this sea

12 What Carter couldn't keep flowing

Mubarak's national resource

ames In The News

To those of us who've dragged strange surnames all across the American landscape—overflowing square boxes and shouting into telephone receivers wherever we go—coming across other goofy or interesting names in print counts as entertainment. And because we live in a nation well stocked with quirky cognomens this idle amusement is rarely any further away than the nearest newspaper.

Take politics. One of my favorite Clinton White House names belongs to Susan Thomases, described by the Washington Post as the administration's "King Kong Kibitzerwhose advice on everything... resounds like a mighty roar through the halls of the West Wing," Ignoring her roaring and focusing solely on Ms. Thomases' surname, I think we can all agree that it is, well, quite singular. (Personally, I'm glad there aren't many other...uh... Thomaseses in the country. Here I'm speaking strictly from the

point of view of suffering typists and stutterers all across the country. This is a column about difficult names, and whether the nameholder is also difficult and prone to roaring has ABSO-

Sometimes an offbeat name can actually be a plus for a political career. James Talent, for instance, is a fine name for a Congressman (R-Mo.). For all I know, Mike Harmless, mayor of Greencastle, Indiana, may actually owe a few electoral points to his disarming moniker. And if you're going to Capitol Hill to bring home some bacon for the folks back home, Nathan Deal (D-Ga.) isn't such a bad handle.

LUTELY NOTHING TO DO WITH

A bit gamy, maybe. But practical.
Other names are less useful
in politics. Let's face it: "Ron
Klink" doesn't have a great ring.
(Perhaps the Capitol Hill freshman looks good on TV). I've got
to assume Jeff Flake is an incredibly talented guy, because he

didn't get his job as head of the Barry Goldwater Institute in Phoenix on the basis of namepower. And while Thomas Grum-

bly would be a great handle in a Dickens novel, and isn't such a bad name for a current assistant secretary in the U.S. Department of Energy, it would not be an ideal tag for a Senate career ("The chair recognizes Senator Grumbly...").

Lots of personal names are out-and-out political liabilities. In the next county over from where I live, a real live individual by the name of Rob Outhouse recently ran for Sheriff. Now, "Rob" anything is not a good name for a Sheriff. But Rob Outhouse—well, that's just tragic.

Which is not to say that Rob can't rise above his problem. There are plenty of politicos who have triumphed over appellational adversity: Take Massachusetts Senate leader Billy Bulger. Or Mike Crapo, U.S.

Representative from Idaho. Or Tokyo Sexwale, the new premier of Johannesburg and Pretoria in South Africa. (If you bomb in government, Tokyo, I suggest you start a band.) And then there's the Republican leader of the Michigan Senate, Dick Posthumus. You've got to admire a guy who can build a public career on that particular rock.

There actually may be lots of Posthumus people in Michigan, because I recently noticed a letter in a national magazine signed by a Michigander named Debra Posthumus-Forbes. Which brings up another issue. If you had an easy and socially acceptable chance to stop being Posthumus and start being Forbesish, would you leap at it or what? I can't see clinging with icy fingers to the deadly identifier of my birth and resorting to a hyphenated surname in a case like that. But then I guess it takes all kinds to make up a good phone book.

—KZ

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