

I.Q." article (SCAN, January/February). Gilder blames the welfare system for "usurp(ing) the male roles of father and provider" and argues the system should be reduced. Has Gilder uncovered a sect of teenage fathers desperately trying to provide for their children but turned away by sneering mothers waving welfare checks? There are valid arguments for stopping welfare payments, but this is not one of them.

Gilder's most blatant attempt to deny women advancement lies in his advocacy of single-sex classes, in which men would apply the "aggressiveness, mechanical aptitude, and mathematical skills that have long sustained the male provider role." Yes, males consistently have higher mathematical scores, but studies show that males receive preferential treatment in mathematics courses. Given equal opportu-

nity, females can match or exceed male mathematical aptitudes. We should focus on developing the strong male and female math students our country sorely lacks.

Amy L. Thompson
Washington, DC

I just finished reading the new *TAE*. Terrific job! If you can sustain this level of quality, I believe you will have a real winner on your hands. I look forward to more in the coming months.

David Blankenhorn
Institute for American Values
New York, New York

In the January/February issue (SCAN) you reported that "hoary chairman of the Government Operations Committee, Jack Brooks [was] among several gun-controlling clay pigeons blasted out of the congressional sky by [NRA] members."

Hoary, perhaps, but definitely not chairman of Government Operations. Gentleman Jack chaired the House Judiciary Committee, which drafted the much-loathed ban on assault weapons. In doing so, Chairman Brooks managed to draw concentrated fire in one of the most gun-toting congressional districts in the nation, becoming one of two incumbent Texas Democrats to lose in November.

Brent R. Orrell
Washington, D.C.

The fine pieces in the "Blueprints for a new world of welfare" section of the January/February *TAE* plangently remind us how well-intentioned government policy can result in major disasters.

Perhaps with 30 years of hindsight on the Great Society we may now recognize the 200-year-old wisdom of Adam Smith:

"The man of system... seems to imagine that he can arrange the different members of a great society with as much ease as the hand arranges the different pieces upon a chess board. He does not consider that... in the great chess-board of human society, every single piece has a principle of motion of its own, altogether different from that which the legislature might choose to impress upon it."

Paul D'Andrea
Chicago, Illinois

CORRECTION: Due to a typographical and then an editing error, the first paragraph of David Henderson's SCAN item in our January/February issue was inaccurate. The article should have begun: "Few now remember that one of the main reasons President Clinton gave for wanting to reform health care was to reduce the growth of spending on Medicare and Medicaid. Government outlays for health care have risen much faster than private spending...." We regret the error.

BioGraph

By Jonathan Schmalzbach

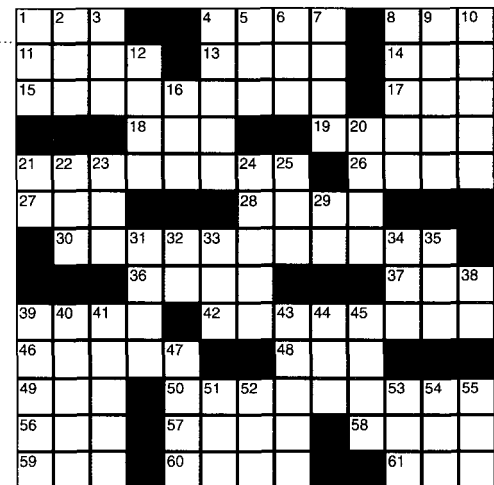
ACROSS

- 1 Loose Buchanan in Republican ragout
- 4 Apt middle name of J.C. Penney
- 8 Fort _____, California
- 11 Harbinger
- 13 Vicinity
- 14 United _____
- 15 Main flavor in Republican ragout
- 17 Zip
- 18 Renowned lexicon: abbr.
- 19 U.S. composer who enlisted in the Marines at age 13
- 21 Aged ingredient in Rep. ragout.
- 26 C-_____
- 27 Kin of POW
- 28 Artificial manner
- 30 Active ingredient in Rep. ragout
- 36 Deep in thought
- 37 Neither's tagalong
- 39 Black Congressman famous for urging "color blind" government; _____ Clayton Powell
- 42 Just a pinch in the Rep. ragout
- 46 Chekhov uncle
- 48 "Bali _____"
- 49 1992 Earth Summit site

- 50 Will serve Republican ragout
- 56 Republicans' least favorite agency
- 57 Barrymore who recently bared more
- 58 George Hormel's canned concoction
- 59 The caustic liquid, not the politician's vice
- 60 Capitol Hill's gentry
- 61 _____-night doubleheader

DOWN

- 1 Virginia Clemm's husband
- 2 Immigrant novelist Tan
- 3 Norman's starting point
- 4 _____ attitude
- 5 We _____ The World
- 6 Emulate Betsy Ross
- 7 Items in Bella Abzug's closet
- 8 Confess
- 9 Glasnost's better half
- 10 Most know Bob Zimmerman by this last name
- 12 American emigrant Queen of the East Bank
- 16 Opposite of masc.
- 20 Greek peak
- 21 Initials of U.S. immigrant author of The Magic Mountain
- 22 Concealed
- 23 Egypt, from '61 to '71: abbr.
- 24 Ross Perot's sucker
- 25 Congressman Leach does it in whitewater
- 29 Initials of President current Americans rank as "best in my lifetime"
- 31 Lifelong employer of the President who warned against "military industrial complex"
- 32 Home to the NEA and Bay of Pigs President: abbr.
- 33 Antonym: abbr.
- 34 What you say after going to ell
- 35 Jersey greeting
- 38 Magazine founded by DeWitt Wallace: abbr.
- 39 Haitian dictator Prospero
- 40 Whey station
- 41 Parris Glendening won by _____



- 43 What a devotee of Wrigley does
- 44 Winding of jazz
- 45 P.J., Flo, and Dave
- 47 What Bill Gates does with his money every day
- 51 Home state of 42 across
- 52 What Communism's first czar would be if he dropped in
- 53 Choose
- 54 Caterpillar nemesis
- 55 1979's disasters were Iran, Chrysler, and _____

The solution for BioGraph is on page 112.

Names in the News

Normal, Neat, Nice, and Shocking

Ye fellow bearers of weird names: my last month's mail brought comforting news. While writing to say he liked "Names in the News," researcher **John Miller** shared this plaintive tale: "I'm also afflicted with a name-plague—there are too many John Millers! Two of us shared my college dorm, there are 16 in the DC phone book....When I signed onto America Online for the first time the computer rejected the moniker "JohnJMiller" and came up with the unappealing solution "JMiller103." I eventually turned to the name of my cat, Skeeter, which worked. So to all the Zinsmeisters and Thomaseses of the world, I feel your pain. But we Millers, Smiths, and Browns have problems too!" (John, meet me at the end of the lunch line immediately.)

If John thinks he has identity problems, he should try being **George Foreman**. Anyone who's ever seen the champ in a pair of boxing trunks knows that there's a *lot* of George Foreman. But I'll bet you didn't know there are five of him. Yup. The man has four sons, ranging in age from young adult to toddler. And guess what? Every one of them is named George Foreman. Would you want to answer the phone in that household?

Building on the happy feeling with which this column has begun, I'd next like to pay tribute to some names I've come across recently that are (to use a technical term) "neat." I'm thinking along the lines of last year's Olympic skiing sensation **Picabo Street** (for those of you who lived quietly in 1994, it's pronounced "Peek-a-boo"). Born and raised in **Triumph**, Idaho (to a dad named **Stubby**), Picabo is one of the all-time greats in the name game. My latest discovery in this vein is **Delight Sticker**, a nurse who works in the maternity ward of

our local hospital. Delight can catch my babies any time.

Another name that recently brought a warm and fuzzy beam of light into an otherwise gray moment (I'm talking here about reading a *Washington Post* story on Canada) is **Art Hanger**. I like the sense of humor of that Canadian's parents. A zippy name that initially struck me as inappropriate is that of the 1950s film star **Victor Mature**. "Victor Mature is a great name for a heartthrob," you're thinking. Well, yes—except this actor specialized in Biblical epics, not panting soap operas. But then I recalled C. S. Lewis' remark that people who can't understand the Bible shouldn't be reading adult books anyway, and I decided that maybe Victor's name fits after all. One final name in the "neato" category floated into my view while I was visiting in-laws in Massachusetts last month. The morning newscaster on Boston's Channel 4, I discovered, is a fellow named **Joe Shortleeve**. That meant a lot to me on a bleary-eyed infant chasing dawn, so thanks for the memory, Joe.

It must be the afterglow of the holidays, because in addition to neato names I've also been collecting "nice" ones. As a recent convert to a complicated new computer system I can't tell you how thrilled I was to learn that there is a phone rep at the IBM consumer HelpCenter named **Sandra Friend**. (Another woman who *ought* to be taking my tech support questions is **Karen McQuestion** of Butler, Wisconsin.) Then there's **Joseph Dear**, head of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Cuddly image. I bet guys who run construction firms have other names for him, though. In the Gallup organization a pleasant librarian named **Kim Neighbor** has often been a good one to me. And how about **Thomas**

Nicely, the Lynchburg College mathematician who, I'm sure many of you noticed, discovered the ballyhooed flaw in the Pentium micro-processor. Can't get any nicer than that. (The folks at Intel may disagree.)

Maybe the sweetest name of all in this month's batch (I promise to be ruder next issue) belongs to Milwaukee police captain **Carl Sincere**. Is that non-threatening or what? I was thinking that's about as good a name as any police officer can have, until a few days later I came upon a starkly alternate example that I decided might be even more useful. The Special Operations Section of the South Bend, Indiana police force is home to perhaps the coolest-named cop in America: **Sargeant Wanda Shock**. Tear 'em up, Sarge.

—KZ

Answers to Biograph (see puzzle page 111)

1	P	2	A	3	T	4	C	5	A	6	S	7	H	8	O	9	R	10	D
11	O	12	E	13	A	14	A	15	Y	16	N	17	I	18	L	19	S	20	U
21	H	22	U	23	M	24	O	25	D	26	P	27	A	28	N	29	S	30	M
31	R	32	A	33	M	34	A	35	M	36	P	37	N	38	H	39	A	40	D
41	A	42	M	43	C	44	K	45	W	46	V	47	A	48	H	49	I	50	O
51	L	52	E	53	Q	54	U	55	T	56	R	57	I	58	P	59	W	60	I