

In a reversal of standard sleuthing:

Missing dog object of detective investigation

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Private detectives are accustomed to dogging tracks in search of missing persons, but a local sleuth has added a variation to that routine — he's tracking a dog.

Russell David Kolins, one of Philadelphia's top private investigators, has been engaged to find Toga, a missing German shepherd whose owner has offered a \$500 reward for information leading to his return.

"In the 10 years I've been in practice, I've located a lot of missing persons. But this is the first time I've ever accepted an assignment to find a missing dog," Kolins said Monday.

Gas-guzzling cars given to Goodwill

PORTLAND, Maine (UPI) — Goodwill Industries has added the gasoline-guzzling automobile to its normal inventory of out-of-fashion clothing and beat-up furniture.

Owners of such eight-cylinder monsters, unable to sell them for a decent price, are donating them to the non-profit organization for tax deductions at the vehicle's book value.

"We're just now getting into selling used cars," Owen Blaisdell, Maine Goodwill director of operations, said yesterday.

"The response has been terrific. Right now we have a 1974 Buick Estate Limited with crushed velour upholstery and fully automatic options, and a 1973 Chevy Impala with V-8 and automatic transmission.

"I just got two calls from people interested in donating 1972 station wagons," he said. "The reason is all the same. They just can't get a good price by selling them."

"The Buick should bring in \$1,000. The owner donated it after he was offered about \$500 by a dealer," Blaisdell said. "The book value is \$1,500, and they got to write off the whole thing."

"This is a pattern going on all over in Goodwill, especially the East Coast," he said. "I think there were 37 cars donated to a Connecticut Goodwill over a seven-week period."

Maine's Goodwill is showing the cars at its Portland headquarters and sending descriptions and pictures of the vehicles to each of their five retail stores, where written bids have been accepted.

Blaisdell said the cars can be started and driven around the parking lot, "but we can't let them out for test drives because we don't have any kind of dealer plate, which requires a two-day garage and a full-time licensed mechanic."

"We sell them pretty much on an 'as is' basis to the highest bidder," he said.

British heir writes tale of fantasy

LONDON (UPI) — Britain's Royal Family yesterday unveiled an author among its ranks — heir to the throne Prince Charles.

Four pages of a short story written by the 30-year-old prince for his younger brothers Andrew and Edward years ago was included in an exhibition entitled "Children of the Castle" that opened at Windsor Castle.

The prince spun the yarn of a Scot called the Old Man of Lochnagar, who is transported through the heavens by eagles, and confronts such unlikely characters as a three-legged underwater mammoth haggis and a grouse which repels its visitors.

The tale is reminiscent of many an English children's classic — "Toad of Toad Hall," or "Alice in Wonderland," and displays a traditional British sense for the eccentric.

In one extract, the prince describes an encounter between the Old Man of Lochnagar and Mr. Toad, who helps guide the old man back to his cave.

"Only too easy, my dear fellow," Mr. Toad tells his companion.

"Hang on to my foot and say after me — "The wind in the willows ker bang tiddle splash."

"He did so, and at once there was a low mumbly sound followed by a swooshing noise."

Prince Charles wrote his story some years ago on royal notepaper while vacationing with his family on the royal yacht Britannia and at the Scottish royal home of Balmoral.

To complement the tale peppered with Scottish names and pastimes — the haggis, grouse-shooting, the old man of the lochs — Sir Hugh Casson, president of the Royal Academy, illustrated the manuscript with a dozen watercolors.

"Prince Charles wrote to me and asked if I would do it," Sir Hugh said. "It was enormous fun."

"My only regret is that Prince Charles didn't illustrate it himself. He's a very fine watercolorist."

The prince never completed his flight of fantasy — leaving Lochnagar hanging, so to speak, on eagles' wings.

"Prince Charles hasn't yet resolved the old man's final adventure," Sir Hugh said. "I don't know if he ever will. It's a very personal thing between him and his brothers."

Detectives Ltd., Kolins works for some of the city's top lawyers.

He is working on the Toga case personally, along with two full-time investigators.

"Anything less would be unthinkable," he said. "I wouldn't have gotten into this unless I intended to go all-out."

"One of my people has an appointment with a dog psychologist today. We want to get deeper insight into the mental processes of a German shepherd under stress caused by disorientation," he said.

Kolins became involved after a prominent Philadelphia lawyer, Richard Atkins, told him the son of a client was

inconsolable over the loss of his prized German shepherd.

"I agreed to talk to the young man," Kolins said. "In the past, I've always steered clear of animal cases, but I felt I'd look into this one out of friendship for Dick Atkins."

The dog's owner, who is 28 and lives in suburban Bucks County, declined to be identified.

On Friday evening, Sept. 7, the young man, his girlfriend and Toga boated down the Delaware River to Philadelphia in his father's 26-foot cruiser.

The young man docked at a marine, police and fire pier. Then the couple left

Toga on the deck of the boat, secured with a 20-foot leather lead and a choker collar, while they went ashore for dinner.

Toga, a five-year-old amiable male weighing about 80 pounds with black and beige markings, was gone when they returned.

"I'll do anything to get him back," the young man said. He has distributed more than 1,000 posters in the Philadelphia area bearing a photograph of Toga in addition to the \$500 reward.

Kolins said he's never heard of so high a reward for an animal.

"Sooner or later it might stir things up," the detective said.

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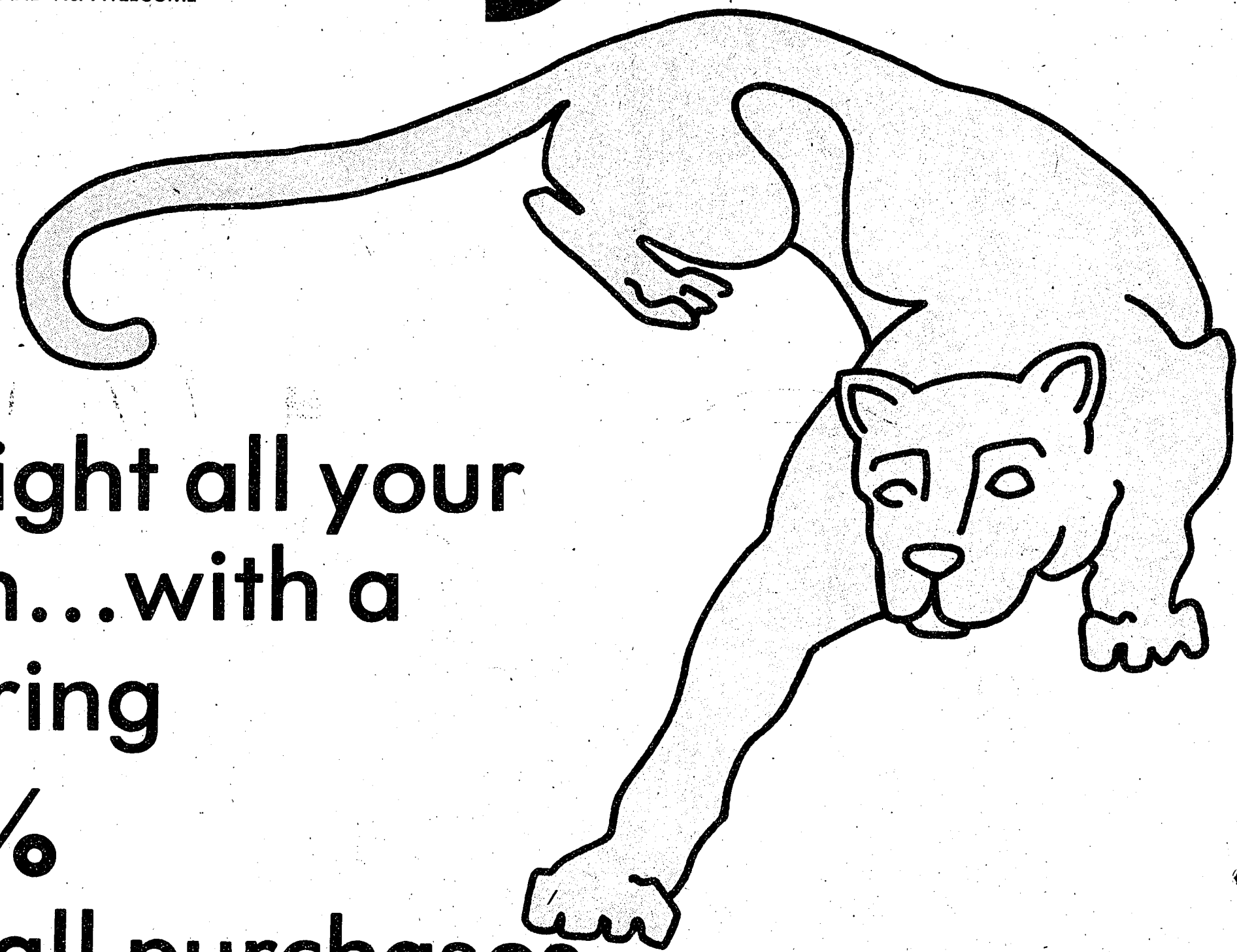
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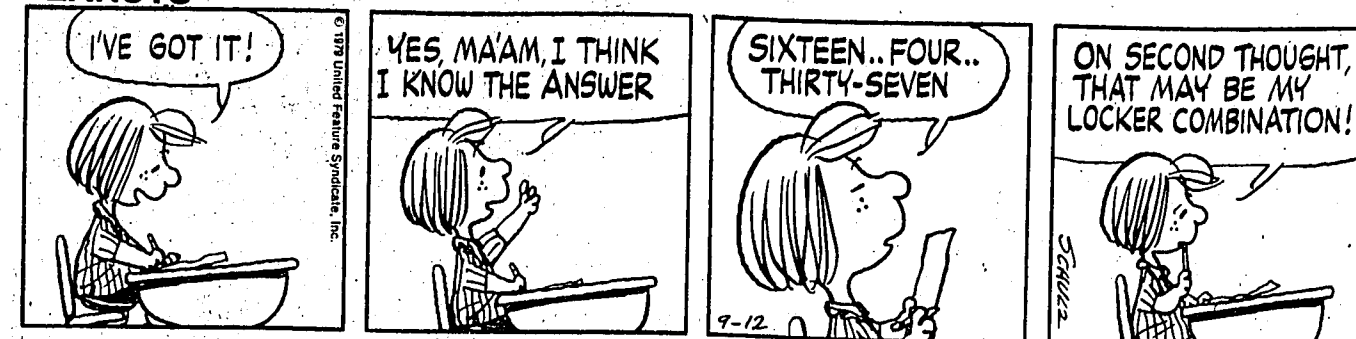
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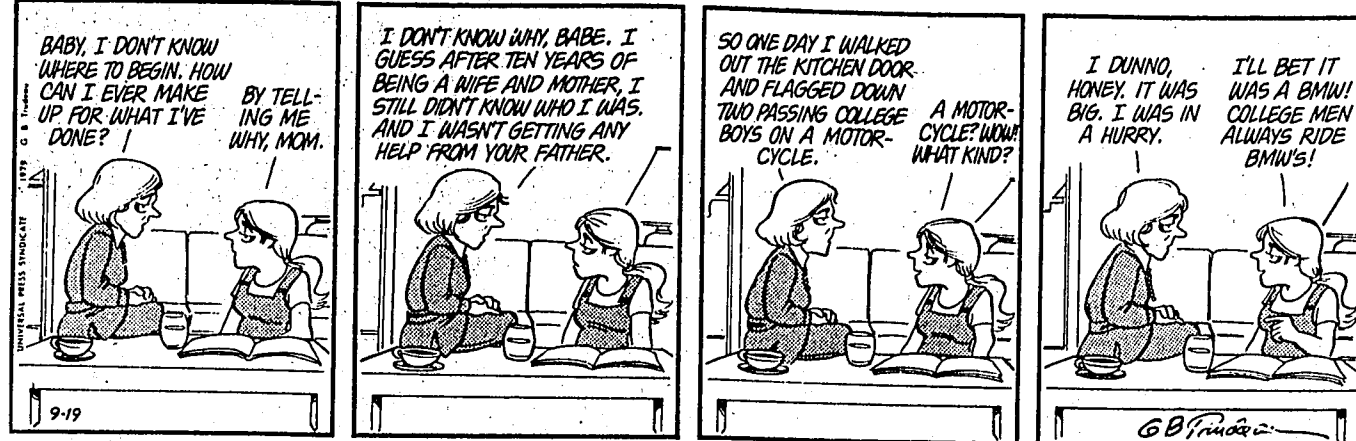
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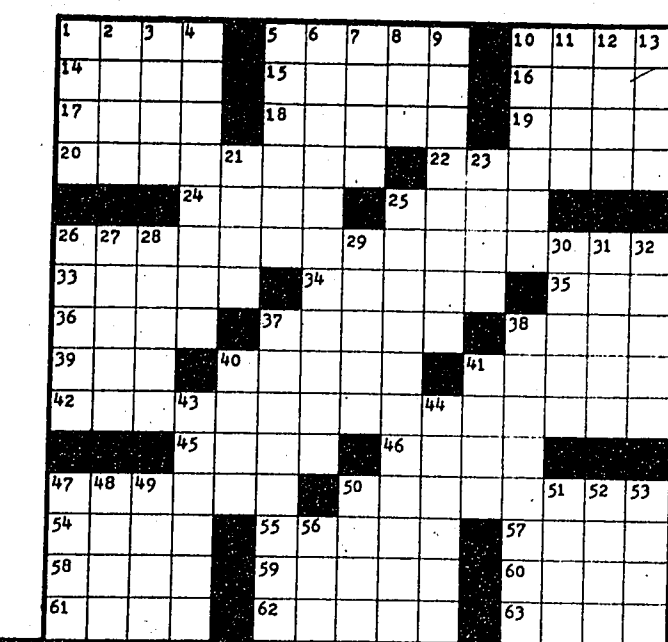
1. Era's art form
2. Cake cover
3. Pick me players
4. Religious image
5. Good form
6. Ending for book or ship
7. Picture
8. Type of cheese or moon
9. "we rest": Pope
10. Cringer
11. West coast, perhaps
12. Overlook
13. Theater's form
14. Best
15. Side dish
16. Apply, as point
17. Barbecue, up order
18. Hammer parts
19. The "king book"
20. German river
21. Uncover

DOWN

1. "Live it"
2. Thrub
3. Postel
4. Go before
5. A hammer...
6. Giffels, once
7. Terrible ruler
8. Egg
9. Alibi
10. Haunted house decoration
11. Comedian
12. Like a lemon
13. Hugs for the links
14. Show parts
15. Hockey's Bobby and family
16. Where London debars once went
17. The feature
18. Telephone word
19. Confederate man
20. "Live it"
21. Address Massey
22. Purplish color
23. Clearcut
24. Prep for a strongman
25. Minor case
26. Old salts
27. Suite
28. Hang around
29. Spite
30. Electrical unit
31. France's field
32. South American capital
33. Yucatan Indian
34. Maudslor's toe
35. Diabolical
36. Trail record
37. Devour

Crossword

by Mike Shenk
(Answers in tomorrow's Collegian Classifieds)



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