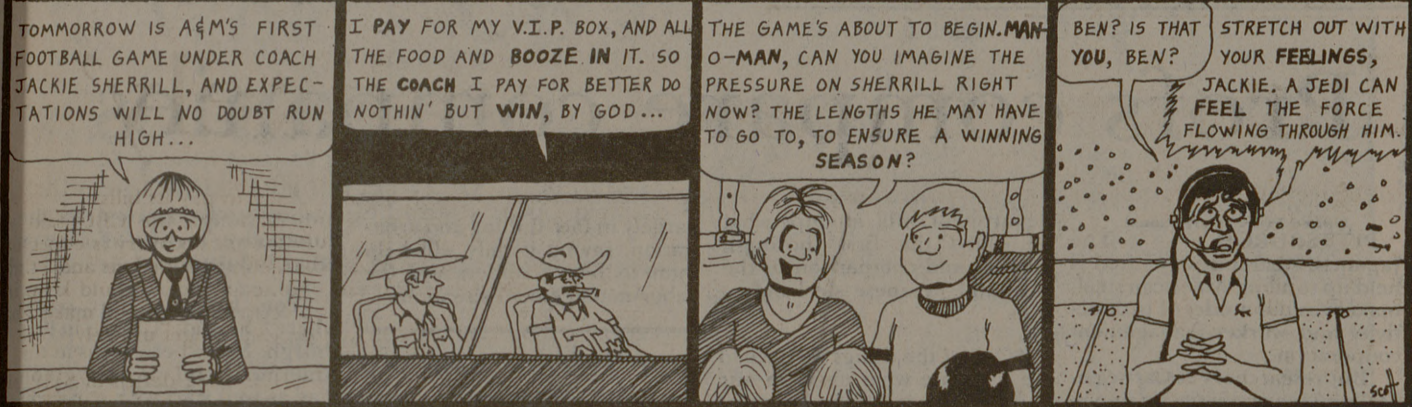


Warped

by Scott McCullar



Knee health important

United Press International
A healthy knee is quiet — emitting little sound — but a diseased joint makes distinctive noises.

Now doctors are using sophisticated electronic equipment to eavesdrop on the knee in the hope of detecting problems without resorting to surgery.

Researchers at the University of Akron have developed what they hope will prove a reliable way to decipher the language of the knee joint. Current surgical

methods of detection can be painful and do present risk to the patient. But acoustical diagnosis is believed more simple and safer.

During clinical tests, a mic-

rophone was attached to a patient's knee that detects the distinct sounds of a damaged joint and translates the pops and creaks, via computer, into a three-dimensional pattern that resembles a mountain's peaks and valleys. Doctors can then zero in on which part of the knee looks abnormal — where the sound has come from — and prescribe treatment.

Forest Service needs volunteers

United Press International
WASHINGTON — The federal Forest Service is looking for more volunteers to help shepherd visitors through United States forest lands.

Volunteers help visitors interpret what they see during nature walks. They guide about

4,000 elementary school children a year on educational field trips.

They maintain trails, oversee campgrounds, help research scientists, keep office records, plant trees and patrol wildernesses, among other things.

The volunteers come in all

ages and from many backgrounds, said Forest Service Chief R. Max Peterson. Some are students, who sometimes get college credits for their work. Others are retirees.

Their work helps hold down government costs. Stan Gaylord, the agency's

national volunteer coordinator, said their numbers have grown dramatically since 1972, when Congress passed the Volunteers in the National Forests Act.

Work hours are flexible, and the jobs are full-, part- or one-time.

New mountain mosaic to dwarf Rushmore

United Press International
GRANITE, Okla. — The famous presidents carved in Mount Rushmore in the Black Hills of South Dakota may soon be dwarfed by a granite monument nearly twice as tall.

The granite carvings of George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Thomas Jefferson and Teddy Roosevelt, known worldwide as Mount Rushmore, stand 60 feet tall.

The mosaic of Will Rogers, Jim Thorpe and Sequoyah planned for the mountains overlooking Granite will be 116 feet high, said monument carver Bill Willis.

The Oklahoma project, entitled "Giants of the Great Plains," temporarily has been placed on hold while Willis, 58, tries to solicit hundreds of thousands of dollars to complete the monument.

Willis began carving and assembling Rogers' portrait in 1979 and unveiled the 28-foot-mosaic bust, containing the humorist's head and shoulders, during ceremonies on the 100th anniversary of Rogers' birthday in November 1979.

Willis said he spent \$20,000 of his own money and \$30,000 in contributions to complete the bust and will need an additional \$300,000 to complete the Rogers portrait and put it on the mountain.

The entire project, including all three figures, will cost more than \$1 million, he said.

Much of the cost will be leveling off the mountain and building an elaborate wind-resistant steel frame to support the mosaic, which eventually will incorporate all three figures.

Willis, who studied architecture but has made his living producing granite tombstones and historical monuments, based his design on paintings of the three Oklahomans in the state Capitol.

He said he chose Rogers, famed athlete Thorpe and Sequoyah, the chief who invented the Cherokee alphabet, because of their apolitical image and Indian heritage.

Working from a photo of the paintings, Willis will use scale drawings to enlarge the design.

Willis etched the pattern into the 195 blocks needed for Rogers' head and shoulders with a rubber stencil.

The two-foot square blocks, each two inches thick, were carved individually and assembled into a steel frame. Each block was numbered according to its assigned space.

The complete three-figure mosaic will contain 3,600 squares, bolted to a steel structure 100 feet up the side of the mountain.

Willis said he is soliciting contributions from corporations

and wealthy individuals, and has asked the state to help finance an attraction he believes will draw thousands of tourists to southwestern Oklahoma.

The designer inevitably compares his project with Mount Rushmore, the national memorial that has been viewed by nearly 50 million visitors during the past 40 years.

Although it will dwarf Mount Rushmore, Willis' work will not be as large as the carving of Crazy Horse by sculptor Korczak Ziolkowski on a granite mountainside near Custer, S.D. The sculpture of the great Sioux Indian chief will be 600 feet long and 563 feet high.

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