

1650

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Yankton, SD

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1660

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1685

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1690

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1700

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1705

Items \$100 or Less

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Decision 2012

Leaks, Lies, Auditions Are Part Of Veepstakes

BY NANCY BENAC

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Leaks are springing. Trial balloons are floating. Egos are being stroked. Wanna-bes are auditioning. And, chances are, lies are being told.

Somewhere, amid all of the shenanigans, Republican Mitt Romney is considering his choices for a running mate, one of the most significant decisions of his presidential campaign.

The secrecy that shrouds the selection of a modern presidential running mate has given rise to political sideshows that play out in public while the more serious search operation takes place at a largely subterranean level.

Names of new Romney short-listers emerge; others fall by the wayside.

Any kind of proximity to Romney — or his opponent — generates questions about GOP veep ambitions.

Why did Sen. Kelly Ayotte of New Hampshire walk in a July Fourth parade with Romney? Why did Gov. Bobby Jindal of Louisiana and former Gov. Tim Pawlenty of Minnesota turn up in Ohio and Pennsylvania during President Barack Obama's Midwest bus trip? Why did Sen. Rob Portman of Ohio write a Cleveland newspaper column criticizing the president's policies just as Obama headed for the state?

Comments by Romney and his team are parsed for deeper meaning.

What to make of Ann Romney's remark this past week that women are under consideration? What about Romney's earlier comment that outspoken New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie "really is something?" Why did Romney pull back the veil last month to announce that Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida was being "thoroughly vetted" for vice president after reports to the contrary emerged?

Consultant Bob Shrum, who's worked on numerous Democratic presidential campaigns, says a closely held search operation is a good thing because it protects the people who open up their lives to the campaign to be thoroughly checked out as potential running mates.

But the lack of public information creates an opening for all sorts of political gamesmanship, including self-promotion by short-listers who aren't on the short list at all and denials by actual short-listers who feign nonchalance.

That makes it hard for voters to know what's real and what's simply for show. Which is just fine with Romney.

Take all the recent attention on Portman, busy raising his own profile. He invited reporters to an off-the-record dinner during the primaries, chatted them up on the press bus during a Romney tour of Ohio, and held a round-table with national media Saturday in New Hampshire, where he headlined a fundraiser for the state GOP. He said he was in the state "mostly on a college tour" with his daughter, but also expected to speak at some events in Boston on Monday to benefit Romney's campaign.

Who's really floating his name as a veep contender?

"Is that a Romney float or is that a Portman float or is that a friends-of-Portman float?" asks Paul Light, a professor of government at New York University. "You just don't know."

There's an easy remedy available to wanna-be contenders who've been left off the short list, says Light. All it takes is a well-placed whisper from a friend of a friend to land on the veep list.

"Instead of saying, 'I could've been a contender,' you can say, 'I am a contender' even if you're not," says Shrum.

No one's owning up, but Rep. Eric Cantor, R-Va., managed to get mentioned as a veep contender in 2008 although the notion that he was under consideration was laughable to GOP nominee John McCain's campaign.

Shrum, who worked on Massachusetts Sen. John Kerry's 2004 campaign, when John Edwards was the running mate, says then-New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson "very much wanted to be seen as being vetted in 2004, until he pulled his own name out of contention." Shrum's theory is that Richardson never wanted to be chosen, but wanted to make a name for himself in preparation for his own 2008 run for president.

Joel Goldstein, an expert on the vice presidency at Saint Louis University School of Law, said presidential candidates may try to flatter a politician or appease a voting bloc by letting it be known that a certain person is under consideration when that person doesn't have a chance. Some call that an "ego vet."

What really matters, says Goldstein, is who's been asked for the campaign to submit documents and answer questionnaires as part of a thorough vetting process.

Steve Schmidt, a senior strategist to McCain's 2008 presidential run, said campaigns are "very careful to have a very inclusive list of people" as potential running mates to avoid giving offense.

Last month, when word surfaced that Rubio wasn't being vetted, it could have created considerable grief for Romney in Florida and with Hispanics. Romney quickly came out and said that Rubio was being "thoroughly vetted."

More often, though, Romney clams up when asked about his search efforts.

That's a far cry from the vice presidential selection process of earlier decades, when candidates were paraded before cameras and, ultimately, very publicly ruled out, causing considerable embarrassment. Walter Mondale, the Democratic nominee in 1984, would fly potential running mates to Minnesota for interviews and hold joint news conferences.

Lake

From Page 1

they're doing a good job in providing the guests with what they want.

"With the increase of revenue, it allows us to provide more for our campgrounds and for our guests, whether that's looking at a bigger disc-golf course or something else they want to see," she said.

Bertsch said the main obstacle last year was the debris in the lake, which kept people away from the grounds.

"We had logs and reeds that was floating in the lake, too," he said. "Boaters had to use caution, and we cleaned the beaches three days a week, removing the logs and reeds, getting the area useable for people."

Although the weather was hot for the week surrounding the Fourth of July, Bertsch said users were positive.

He noted that there were a couple of minor incidents over the holiday in which some boats had to be towed.

"People do need to make sure before they go out on the water that they check their boats over and they have the proper gear with them before they head out into the water," he said. "Other than that, it was pretty safe."

Dog

From Page 1

who found Lucy. "If it weren't for her, I don't know what I would have done with the dog. No one else would even come close enough to look at her."

Lucy is currently being held in the city pound, and Dakota Animal Rescue, of which Brasel is a founding member, is helping with the bills to get the dog back to health.

"She is doing as good as could be expected," Brasel said.

Still looking sickly and timid, Lucy was laying in her kennel when the Press & Dakotan visited her last week.

"She is being kept at the pound so she doesn't infect (other dogs with scabies)," Brasel said.

She said Lucy was a sad case.

"It's hard to say how long she was out," Brasel stated. "I don't know if she got lost or if somebody dumped her. What we do know is, her condition didn't happen overnight."

When Lucy was picked up, her nails were so long that they curled over to the side, Brasel said. During her first visit to a veterinarian, a vet technician picked Lucy up and became coated in fleas.

"I've treated dogs in this condition before, and it takes a really long time to get them back to health," Brasel said.

She hopes that in two months time, Lucy will be well enough to be adopted.

"She is super sweet," Brasel said. "She cries and whines because she wants to be held. She wags her tail. She is a good-natured little dog."

If you would like to assist with Lucy's medical care, donations can be sent to Dakota Animal Rescue, PO Box 240, Yankton, SD 57078. You can also contact the organization at (605) 661-4519, or (605) 661-3121.

You can follow Nathan Johnson on Twitter at [Twitter.com/AnInlandVoyage](#)

Trailer

From Page 1

some customization.

"The trailer was kind of wide, and the fabric we bring in is only 75 inches," Nelson stated. "I had to go to Shur-Co and see if they would help me with making the fabric. We had to weld the fabric together to get it the width that I needed. The cover has an aluminum sub-structure and a vinyl fabric top that is held on with Velcro."

The decision was made to donate the \$250 in material and services for the project, Nelson said.

"We like to help out when we can," he stated.

Nickles said that he and Yankton firefighter Bill Ziegler installed the cover.

The trailer was completed two days before fire school.

"It worked very well. Everyone was happy with the trailer," Nickles said. "They liked the fact it wasn't a big, clumsy two-axle trailer like we used to have."

"We appreciate everyone's sponsorship and support to put the trailer together," he added, noting that it allowed the association to complete the project for about \$500.

You can follow Nathan Johnson on Twitter at [Twitter.com/AnInlandVoyage](#)

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Florida city

6 Rascal

11 African lilies

12 Wanderer

13 Settle, as a debt

14 Basketball star

15 Ballet leap

17 Ruby of film

18 Zealots

22 Baldwin of "30 Rock"

23 Manufacturers

27 Share in a business

29 Playful sprite

30 Tribe symbols

32 Green stone

33 No-win situations?

35 Flying mammal

38 DEA agent

39 Astonish

41 Ohio city

45 Scout's job

46 Paris river

47 Nose, slangily

48 Got up

DOWN

1 Road goo

2 Pub product

3 Custodian's tool

4 Sailor's coat

5 Up to the present

6 Patella

7 Right away

8 In the thick of

9 Wind indicator

10 Border

16 Director

18 Speedy

19 Singing voice

20 Orderly

HARSH

AGITA

SEVER

HOOPLA

ELL

SDI

BURN

MARIAN

CEZANNE

ONO

LARVA

OCEAN

NESTS

REAMS

ELTON

MICRO

OAR

ENMASSE

QUARTS

GMS

RIP

SQUARE

UNTIL

IDEAL

NORMS

Saturday's answer

21 Slopes attire

24 Test

25 Carnival attraction

26 Beholds

28 Famous

31 Yacht spot

34 Lawn growth

35 Cell feature

36 Prayer ender

37 Folded food

40 Menagerie

42 Carnival city

43 Music's Yoko

44 Homer's neighbor

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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39			40			41	42	43	44
45						46			
47						48			

7-9

AXYDLBAAXR

is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

7-9

CRYPTOQUOTE

URVLJW

NGSF

JPLWDHGR

CG

CAPPC

CDP

"JPAR"

LR

JGC

SJKLVP

URVLJW

NGSF

XGXVPF

RYUJLPK

CG

HSN

WFGXPFLPR

FDPCU

WFLERKPN

IGDJRGJ

Saturday's Cryptoquote:

WE MUST ALL HANG TOGETHER, OR ASSUREDLY, WE SHALL ALL HANG SEPARATELY.

— BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

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