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Saddam's Capture Could Mean Higher Oil Prices

By Robert Czeschin

The capture of Saddam Hussein may have been a major victory for the Bush Administration and occupation forces in Iraq. But any expectations that it's going to lead to a lessening of hostilities are hopelessly naive.

As Iraq's June elections approach, Saddam loyalists (Sunni Muslims) will intensify their attacks because they know they'll be overwhelmed at the ballot-box by their hated enemies — the Shi'ite Muslims they brutally oppressed for 25 years. And now, with Saddam out of the way, look for a grand alliance between the Sunnis and al Qaeda. Big trouble is coming to Iraq.

Oil exports from Iraq will be limited. The damage caused by attacks on local oil installations is so severe that only a trickle of oil is coming out of Iraq. One of the reasons why ordinary Iraqis are so mad at occupation forces is that motorists have to wait in lines two miles long to get gas. This, in a country with the world's third largest reserves.

The capture and humiliation of Saddam Hussein is obviously a major triumph for the White House. Bush now has the personal satisfaction of accomplishing what his father could not. With Saddam's capture, he gets an example of the kind of concrete progress he has been seeking in Iraq ... to confound the Democratic Presidential candidates hoping to unseat him.

Finally, a public trial of the former Iraqi dictator next year - which Bush says he wants is also likely to provide a well-timed boost to the President's re-election campaign.

Clearly, Saddam's capture has also provided a huge boost to the morale of occupation forces in Iraq. And of course, it's also deprived the resistance of a major rallying point.

Executive Trivia Question...

Caleb B. Brabham invented what popular beverage?

Published monthly by:
Thomas E. Ollerman, Ph.D.
INNOVA, Inc.
**1749 S. Westwood
Mesa, AZ 85210**
480-838-4854 • Fax 480-897-6180
<http://www.innovainc.com>
email: tom@innovainc.com
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Indeed, early media reports suggested the capture of Saddam would leave his supporters so demoralized that they would meekly lay down their arms, surrender or just fade away. Regrettably, nothing could be farther from the truth.

Interestingly enough, many of the SAME hopes were expressed after Saddam's two sons, Uday and Quesay, were killed in a shoot-out with occupation forces. This, too, was supposed to eliminate rallying points for the opposition. Yet, attacks on occupation forces did not diminish. Instead they intensified. Moreover, it looks like the same thing is happening now.

Within hours of Saddam's capture two car bombs went off, killing 17. One of which was set near the Reuters office in a section of downtown Baghdad heavily patrolled by occupation forces. These were accompanied by attacks on Iraqi police stations and anti-American street demonstrations in Tikrit, Saddam's home town. This doesn't sound like a leaderless, demoralized opposition to me.

There are two reasons why the frequency and intensity of attacks on occupation forces is now likely to get worse - not better

Number One. The Sunni based opposition isn't fighting for Saddam, it's fighting for its own survival. Sunni Muslims account for only about 25% of Iraq's population. But under Saddam, virtually all of Iraq's ruling elite were Sunnis like himself. With his government overthrown, not only have the Sunnis lost their privileged positions, they increasingly

fear for their future.

And they have much to be fearful about. For nearly a quarter century, Saddam ruthlessly persecuted and suppressed Iraq's 60% Shi'ite majority. He did this because they were supported by Iran, the largest Shi'ite nation and Iraq's bitter regional rival.

Now, it's payback time. Bush says he wants a democratic government in Iraq. And the Sunnis are scared to death of a democracy. Because the Shi'ites will use their overwhelming numerical majority ... to elect a Shi'ite government and get even.

Their only hope of survival is to create enough turmoil and destruction that a new Iraqi government cannot be effectively organized, and local elections never take place.

Number Two. With Saddam captured, the door is open to a Sunni/al-Qaeda alliance against the United States. Apart from the Sunnis, the other main element of the Iraqi resistance is al Qaeda and its followers: former Taliban fighters on the run from Afghanistan and suicidal graduates of the thousands of Islamic schools and madrassahs preaching single-minded hatred of America.

To justify the Iraqi invasion, the Bush Administration needed to find a way to link Saddam's regime to the September 11th attacks. It did this by painting Saddam as an ally of Osama bin Laden. But in fact, the two couldn't stand each other.

Under Saddam's secular government, for example, Iraq had one of the most liberal policies towards women of any Islamic country. And the fundamentalist al

Qaeda despised him for it. Indeed, Osama bin Laden considered Saddam a corrupt opportunist and a traitor to the true cause of Islam.

But with Saddam now out of the picture, very little stands in the way of these two key opposition groups — fearful Sunnis and al Qaeda & company - from making common cause against a common enemy. And make no mistake, a united Iraqi opposition is going to be more powerful, not less.

Bottom line: After Saddam's capture, there are now likely to be more coordinated attacks designed to kill or maim occupation soldiers and international aid workers -not fewer. More savage targeting of Iraqi civilians who cooperate with occupation authorities.

And finally, there are now likely to be MORE acts of sabotage against Iraqi oilfields, pipelines, and refineries.

Even before Saddam was captured, the Iraqi oil industry was in a state of siege bordering on paralysis ...the methods insurgents use to attack Iraqi oil are simple but effective: First, they scare away skilled oilfield personnel by targeting workers and their families. Then, they steal and sabotage key pieces of equipment. In recent weeks, for example, attacks against pipelines have been averaging two per day.

And when it comes to pipelines, Iraq is a target rich environment. Hundreds of miles of unprotected, above-ground pipelines pass through the so-called Sunni triangle in central Iraq - where the Iraqi insurgency is at its fiercest. As a result, Iraq's export

pipeline to neighboring Turkey has been almost totally shut down. Overall oil exports have been less than a quarter of what the US government promised.

Saboteurs have also blown up sections of pipelines running to and from major Iraqi refineries, thereby cutting off supplies of gasoline, diesel, and heating oil. They've

also wrecked or stolen dozens of the fleet of tanker trucks that bring in extra motor fuel from Turkey.

Result: motorists now have to stand in lines two miles long (according to the New York Times) to buy a few dinars' worth of gasoline. This, in a country with the world's 3rd largest oil reserves. (Can you see why local people get

so mad at occupation forces ... for trying to export their oil?)

Now, with Saddam out of the picture, Sunni insurgents are free to join forces with al Qaeda radicals. Iraq is about to become an even bloodier quagmire than it would have been otherwise. And that means higher, rather than lower world oil prices.

Reader Response

From: Jane Lehmann, Elgin, Illinois

Jane sent us a new and more thought provoking response to Dr. Barry Gordon's article in the November issue of Innovative Time on "How to Build a Better Memory." Here is the brainteaser given by Dr. Gordon in November.

4. Listen to Common Sense Sometimes the common sense solution is better than the round-about, clever, sophisticated solution.

Check for common sense by thinking about the practical applications of an idea or solution. Imagine putting your solution into play or acting on an idea, then see if it still holds up. Here's another brainteaser to prove why that's important.

Working alone, Tom can mow his lawn in two hours. It takes his brother Dave four hours to mow the same lawn. If they work together, which answer is closest to the amount of time it will take? Four hours? Three hours? Two hours - or one hour? Think for a moment before reading on.

If you answered three hours, think again. You chose the average time, but why would both boys working together take more

time to mow the lawn than Tom working by himself?

The most likely answer; of the choices given, is one hour - half the time Tom takes on his own. But even this is suspect. For what if Tom and Dave's family have only one mower?

The more you apply common sense to questions like this, the less likely you will be to let your intelligent memory lead you astray.

Here is Jane's response.

I have another possibility for Dr. Gordon's answer to #4 "Listen to Common Sense." In fact, I think Dr. Gordon should listen to some common sense. Three hours is not a "bad" answer even though it isn't the best answer. In answer to his question, "...why would both boys working together take more time to mow the lawn than Tom working by himself?" Because Dave is so damned slow! Dave isn't going to speed up simply because he is working with Tom. We have to assume that they'll both work at their ordinary speeds.

If they have two mowers and work at the same time and if they're each going to do half of the lawn, it takes Tom 1 hour to do 1/2 a lawn and Dave 2 hours to do

1/2 a lawn. It takes two hours, then for them to do it together, but Tom has to work only 1 hour. One could argue that is fair since they've each done the lawn. Gordon's question about what if Tom and Dave have only one mower makes the 3 hour total a reasonable answer. If they have only one mower, it will take one hour for Tom to do 1/2 and an additional 2 hours for Dave to do 1/2.

BUT, if Tom is going to keep mowing until they've finished, instead of stopping when he has done half, it will take about one hour and 1/2. In one hour, Tom will have done 1/2 the lawn and Dave will have done 1/4 of the lawn. In the next 15 minutes, Tom will have completed 1/4 of the remaining quarter and Dave 1/4 of the remaining 1/4. At that point, if I were Tom, I'd let Dave mow for another 15 minutes and finish the damned thing. SO. Dave and Tom will work for one hour and 1/4 and Dave will work for an additional 1/4 hour, for a total of 1 and 1/2 hours.

There is no way to justify an answer of one hour - half the time Tom takes on his own - since we cannot assume that Dave will magically speed up just because he is working with Tom.

The Idea Incubator

By Frank Helton

How You Can Tell Wine From Vinegar?

It's hard for anyone to tell whether an unopened bottle of wine has turned to vinegar, but it's a particular problem for oenophiles bidding thousands of dollars for a rare vintage at auction. Now chemist *Matthew Augustine* of the University of California, Davis, has a solution. He's created an apparatus that holds a bottle of corked wine inside the kind of nuclear magnetic resonance machines used by laboratory chemists. NMR machines can determine what chemicals are present in liquid; with Augustine's apparatus, the machine can detect acetic acid vinegar in sealed bottles. He thinks the method might be routinely used for expensive bottles put up for auction, as well as for old bottles found in ship wrecks. *Richard Brierley*, head of wine sales for Christie's in North America, hopes that doesn't happen. "There's an inherent excitement and subjectivity and something of a risk in buying old wines," he says, "because you never know what you're going to get."

How Can Air Conditioners Fight Flu?

The next generation of air conditioners may kill the flu virus, say researchers at Sharp Corp. of Japan. The company's new "plasmacluster ion air purification" system generates positive and negative ions, which are attracted to the tiny charged particles of some viruses and bacteria. The

ions inactivate the germs by destroying surface proteins, preventing them from reproducing. An influenza expert at Barts and the London School of Medicine and Dentistry says Sharp's research looks sound. "Influenza is easier than most to inactivate," says *John Oxford*. "It's a fairly fragile virus." But eliminating viruses from the air won't necessarily mean a dramatic reduction in flu cases, says virologist *Elizabeth McCruden* of Glasgow University in Scotland. Most respiratory infections, she says, are transmitted by touch.

How Did The Houston School System Get Named Best Urban District?

The Houston school district, named as the nation's best urban district last year, concealed the fact that more than 2,000 students dropped out in 2001, according to auditors. School officials hid the dropouts by claiming they'd transferred to other schools. The revelations came as a stunning blow to the district, which has served as a pillar of the "Texas miracle" in reforming low-performing urban schools. Texas requires its schools to give mandatory, standardized tests in key grades and then ranks the schools based on their overall performance. That system of accountability has served as a model for President Bush's push to institute standardized testing nationwide. But critics said the pressure to put up good test scores backfired. Houston school officials, the critics said, pressured low achievers

to drop out, so that average test scores would rise. "It was Enron accounting," a former district employee said.

How Can We Stop Exploding Pacemakers?

Pacemakers may help save the lives of many people with cardiac disease, but they can explode during cremation and endanger crematorium workers, a British researcher claims. The implants, which are usually placed under layers of tissue, contain combustible chemicals that can suddenly explode when a body is burned. *Christopher Gale* at the General Infirmary at Leeds in England surveyed 241 British crematoriums, and found that more than half had reported pacemaker explosions, some strong enough to blow the doors off ovens and injure unsuspecting workers. To protect workers and equipment, Gale recommends that crematoriums install metal detectors.

How Can We Build A Better Penis?

Scientists have succeeded in growing major parts of the penis in a lab. A team from Harvard University Medical School removed the corpora cavernosa - the spongy tissue that swells with blood during an erection from 18 rabbits, and then used cells from these parts to grow replacement tissue. Because the new penis parts originated from the rabbits' own cells, their immune systems did not reject the replacements. Once the rabbits recovered from surgery, they were placed in a

cage with female rabbits, and were able to function normally. Within 30 seconds, “they were able to copulate, penetrate, and produce sperm,” says tissue engineer **Anthony Atala**. Their erections, however, were only about half as firm as usual “It’s analogous to the penis of a 60-year-old man versus that of a 30-year old,” says Atala. His team is now trying to grow a complete penis. If the technique works on humans, it could help children born with abnormal genitalia or men who have been injured, it could also lead to new procedures for men who wish to enlarge their penises.

Why Moms Are Lefties?

Most mothers - about 85 percents - cradle their babies in their left arm, regardless of whether they are right- or left-handed Explanations for the phenomenon have included the tranquilizing effect of the mother’s heartbeat, or the infant’s preference for that head posture. But now British researchers have a new explanation. A woman cradles her infant in her left arm because it helps her interpret her baby’s needs and emotions faster, says **Victoria Bourne** of the University of Sussex. When a baby is in the mother’s left field of vision, visual information is processed by the right side of her brain - the side of the brain most women use to process faces and emotions. “The advantage is you can react to a baby in distress quicker according to neuropsychologist Bourne. Men, researchers found, have no left-cradling bias “The whole issue of what’s going on with the males needs to be studied,” says Bourne.

Why Should We Tag Designer Foods?

Genetically modified foods such as corn and soybeans have been commercially grown in the U.S. for decades. But other countries, particularly in the European Union, are far more suspicious of these “Frankenstein foods.” Several have banned their commercial production, and refuse to accept imports of them. Genetically engineered crops are plants that have genes added to them to change their characteristics - to make them pest-resistant, for example. So far, there is no evidence they harm consumers. But the still-wary are now suggesting they be given a choice, by adding a kind of DNA bar code to genetically modified foods. “This will ensure consumer choice and increase confidence,” says British government scientist **Howard Dalton**. Detecting modified food is currently very difficult because you have to know what alteration you’re looking for. The new technique would add the same easy-to-detect genetic tag to all foods. Once developed, the new DNA tagging technology could also be used to prevent knockoffs of bank notes or designer clothes.

How is Venezuela Losing Time?

Time is dragging in Venezuela. Literally. In a peculiar mass malfunction, all the country’s plug-in clocks are ticking too slowly, losing 150 seconds every day. “Everything that has to do with timekeeping has slowed down,”

said **Miguel Lara**, general manager of the national power grid. The problem started when the river powering a major hydroelectric plant in southeast Venezuela was weakened by a severe drought in February 2001. To prevent blackouts, the country lowered the frequency of the current. While that doesn’t affect appliances such as televisions or computers, it slows the vibrations of the crystals regulating timekeeping. “It’s the most bizarre thing I’ve ever heard of,” **Dan Nied** of the U.S. School of Horology told MSNBC. com. “But yes, clocks would slow down. People must be going nuts.” Shipping worker **Rene Osurna** isn’t worried. “If you’re two minutes late to the office, and everybody else is too, there s no problem.

How Can Dead Pets Kill?

Dead pets and livestock are poisoning wildlife. Across the country, federal officials say, more than 130 bald and golden eagles have dropped dead after eating the carcasses of animals tainted with the euthanasia drug sodium pentobarbital. California condors, foxes, bears, coyotes, lynxes, and other animals in at least 14 states have also been poisoned. The problem is that the drug used to euthanize horses, dogs, cats, and other domestic animals remains in their flesh long after they die. When the corpses are left out in the open or buried in shallow graves, wild scavengers ingest the poison. This can be prevented if animal corpses are incinerated or properly buried, says the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Improper disposal can

Is the U.S. Running Out of Water?

By Thomas E. Ollerman

The world is becoming aware that the Pakistan and India conflicts have long centered on the water feeding into the Kashmir valley between the two countries. The country that controls this water will control the other country and both sides know this. Will water become a more valuable commodity than oil in the future? And will the U.S. go after their water if we have a shortage here or in other countries we promise to help?

A prolonged drought has caused severe water shortages throughout much of the country. Are dry rivers, half-empty reservoirs, and barren farm land a short anomaly – or the shape of things to come?

Half the states have imposed water-use restrictions, and in parts of the Southeast and Southwest, it's nearly as dry as it was during the Dust Bowl crisis of the 1930s. In Arizona and Colorado, massive fires have roared through forests transformed into kindling by a lack of rainfall. Farmland in the Midwest is being lost to creeping desertification. Western Nebraska, the state's governor says, "looks like the moon." "Water is so scarce in Colorado that an ad campaign urges Denver residents to "Only Wash the Stinky Parts." In Atlanta, water pressure fell so low this summer that when thousands of people turned on their taps, they got only a tea colored trickle.

Droughts are a natural phenomena, and even terrible ones, like the Dust Bowl, eventually end. But scientists are very worried that global warming may 'be creating long term changes in rainfall patterns. Computer models suggest that higher temperatures will bring more

extremes in weather - longer and deeper droughts, and spells of torrential rains that will cause floods. Weather extremes already seem to be more common. The Colorado River, which provides water to two-thirds of California, is currently running at 14 percent its normal capacity - the lowest level it's been measured at in 150 years. The Colorado is fed primarily by melting snow pack, and with warmer temperatures, there is now less snow. By 2050, scientists project the high elevations of the Sierra Nevada and Cascade mountains will be 11 degrees warmer than past averages. That would reduce the snow pack by 13 feet. California's population, meanwhile, will grow by 20 million people in the next two decades.

America actually uses less water per capita than it did in 1980, due to conservation measures. But overall demand is up, as our population grows and migrates to sunny states in the south and west. where there's already too little water. Texas, for example, is growing so fast that its population is expected to double by the year 2050. Already demand on the Rio Grande is so great that the fabled river now runs dry before it reaches the Gulf of Mexico. Sprawl compounds the shortages: As sub-developments and strip malls expand across vast swaths of Sun Belt desert and prairie, concrete covers land once open to the rain. That keeps nature from recharging aquifers, streams, and rivers. Sprawl development is literally sending billions of gallons of badly needed water down the drain. All the new lawns don't help either. Grass and

bushes are not natural to many of the new sprawling desert cities, but people like them. Keeping them green requires a lot of water. The government estimates that a third of all residential water, in fact, now goes to lawn watering.

Urban America is affected because in the older cities of the Northeast and Midwest, the primary problem is not supply - it's waste. In cities like New York and Boston and Chicago, leaky pipes laid decades or a century ago are dripping up to one-half of their contents en route to users. Leaks also invite contamination, threatening catastrophic public-health problems. More than 200,000 water mains now burst every year. Utilities will need to make significant investments in rebuilding or replacing their underground delivery assets. Estimates of the cost range from the EPA's \$151 billion to an industry group's even trillion.

The money for this improvement will probably have to come from strapped state and federal governments. Private companies have moved into the breach, and many analysts expect that much of the country's water will be supplied by a hybrid of private companies and government entities. New Orleans and Atlanta have already privatized water delivery. In the United Kingdom, most water is now delivered by private companies. Privatization sets up what promises to be one of the new century's major points of contention, as global conglomerates take control of water supplies and the ability to pay determines who gets the bulk of what's available. This could lead to a world water elite. Currently, 7 percent of the world's fresh water is controlled by private companies; that is expect-

ed to increase to 17 percent by 2015.

In one of the U.S.'s wettest states, Tampa city officials are now so desperate for water they're building two plants to desalinate the Gulf of Mexico. In California, a businessman has proposed filling 850 foot bladders on snow-swollen, northern California rivers and shipping billions of gallons south to arid Los Angeles. Booming Las Vegas is interested in piping water across the Rockies, all the way from Wyoming. Throughout the world, humanity's growing thirst is giving rise to solutions that once would have seemed fanciful, or even absurd. Water, in many regions, has become more precious than oil; as its value rises, businesses and scientists scheme to move it hundreds or even thousands of miles, to millions of thirsty mouths.

A private company, Cadiz Inc., for example, hopes to drain water from the aquifer under the Mojave Desert and sell it to Los Angeles during droughts. Storing and selling aquifer water could be the key to California's future. Perhaps the most imaginative solution comes from Chile: There scientists are already 'harvesting' the dense fogs that wrap the country's coast. Using vast, tightly meshed polypropylene nets, Chileans catch these moisture-rich clouds, trapping enough water to supply entire villages.

The global picture is far gloomier than in the U.S. There's a lot of water on this planet, but less than 1 percent of it is fresh. The supply, moreover, is unevenly distributed. More than one billion people have limited access to clean water, a num-

ber that could triple by 2017. Each year 12 million people die from lack of clean water, and conditions are apt to worsen. Global consumption of water is doubling every 20 years, twice the rate of population growth. By 2025, the demand for water will exceed supply by 56 percent - assuming that supply remains at current levels. But in fact, supply is declining: More than half the world's rivers are either polluted or drying up. Great rivers like the Yellow, the Colorado, and the Ganges no longer reach their traditional endpoints. If the wars of this century are fought over oil, the wars of the next will be fought over water.

Suppose you were an idiot. And suppose you were a member of Congress. But I repeat myself.

Mark Twain

Scam Alert – Cancer and Snake Oil

By Carole Fleck

Surf the Internet for a few minutes, and you're likely to stumble across something that so far has eluded the world's leading medical researchers: a cure for cancer.

Last year the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) turned up hundreds of websites touting unproven cures or treatments for cancer and other serious diseases. Experts say modern-day snake oil peddlers are popping up on the internet faster than the FTC can shut them down.

One site pushes more than 100 "alternative cancer treatments" that it claims are "safe, effective [and] non-toxic." (A 30-page guide to them is \$18.75.) Another features **Lorraine Day**, M.D., who says that she defeated breast cancer by refusing "mutilating surgery, chemotherapy and radiation" and relying instead on "natural, simple, inexpensive therapies designed by God." Day's site, like many others, sells books, audiotapes and herbal products.

Other websites tout as cancer "cures" everything from powdered shark cartilage to herbal teas. There's hydrazine sulfate, a component of rocket fuel that purportedly works by depriving cancers of glucose, and Cantron, an electrolyte formula that, one website says, fights cancers by "lowering" the voltage of the cell

structure.

Aside from economic harm, says the FTC's **Rich Cleland**, quack cancer products and therapies may lead people to put off "obtaining legitimate treatment at a time when intervention may be most helpful."

At another site, an herbalist identified as "**Dr.**" **Richard Schulz** goes so far as to promise in a video interview that "your cancer's going 'to leap out of your body'".

Last year the FTC obtained a \$4.3 million judgment against **BioPulse International Inc.**, for making unsubstantiated claims about two cancer "treatments" it offered in Tijuana, Mexico. One of them, billed as "hypoglycemic sleep therapy" involved placing cancer patients in a series of insulin-induced comas over a seven-week period at a cost of nearly \$40,000. Some patients, according to news accounts, died from their cancers soon after receiving the treatment.

Then there's an electronic gadget called "The New Super Zapper Deluxe." Its inventor, **Hulda Clark**, claims that the device can stop cancer "immediately" by "selectively electrocuting pathogens." The price: \$159.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

The National Cancer Institute offers authoritative information at www.cancer.gov. To learn more about cancer quackery, go to www.quackwatch.org.

Some Might Remember When

From: Bill Billica

Animal Whys?

by Jocelyn Little

- The honey possum sucks honey from blossoms.
- The schooner Brindle was going through a perilous pass off New Zealand in 1871 when a porpoise started leaping around in front of the ship as if it wanted to lead the way. The ship followed and the porpoise led them safely through. The porpoise was named Pelorus Jack and after that it met and guided every ship that came through. All but one. In 1903, a drunk on the Penguin shot at Jack. He disappeared for two weeks and returned to guide every ship but the Penguin. In 1909, the Penguin, long thought cursed, was wrecked in Pelorus Pass with great loss of life. Jack disappeared in November 1916.
- Candelaria Villanueva was thrown into the sea when the passenger ship she was sailing on sank six hundred miles off the Philippines. She was kept afloat and survived thanks to a sea turtle, which supported her for two days, until she was rescued.
- Grebes and dabchicks swallow their own feathers, apparently to aid their digestion.

- All the girls had ugly gym uniforms?
- It took five minutes for the TV to warm up?
- Nearly everyone's Mom was at home when the kids got home from school?
- Nobody owned a purebred dog?
- When a quarter was a decent allowance?
- You'd reach into a muddy gutter for a penny?
- Your Mom wore nylons that came in two pieces?
- All your male teachers wore neckties and female teachers had their hair done every day and wore high heels?
- You got your windshield cleaned, oil checked, and gas pumped without asking, all for free, every time? And you didn't pay for air? And, you got trading stamps to boot?
- Laundry detergent had free glasses dishes or towels hidden inside the box?
- It was considered a great privilege to be taken out to dinner at a real restaurant with your parents?
- They threatened to keep kids back a grade if they failed..., and they did?
- When a '57 Chevy was everyone's dream car, to cruise, peel out, lay rubber, or watch submarine races. And people went steady?
- No one ever asked where the car keys were because they were always in the car in the ignition, and the doors were never locked?
- Lying on your back in the grass with your friends and saying things like, "That cloud looks like a . . . And playing baseball with no adults to help kids with the rules of the game?"
- Stuff from the store came without safety caps and hermetic seals because no one had yet tried to poison a perfect stranger?
- When being sent to the principal's office was nothing compared to the fate that awaited the student at home?
- And with all our progress, don't you just wish, just once you could slip back in time and savor the slower pace and share it with the children of today?

**Executive Trivia
Answer...**
Pepsi Cola.

Thought To Ponder...

"Everyone is ignorant, only on different subjects."

Mark Twain