



# The Flag and Whistle

Newsletter of the Soccer South Bay Referee Association

**November 30, 2013**

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## **NEW BOARD POSITION IS A THANKLESS JOB AND NO ONE WANTS TO DO IT PLENTY OF QUESTIONS, AND SOME ANSWERS TOO CAL SOUTH AND THE MEMBERS GO HEAD-TO-HEAD OVER OFFSIDE CALLS**

The monthly meeting in November got under way with **Warren 'Bluto' Howell** mentioning that the long and trying, though very successful, CSL and DSL seasons were drawing to a close, and congratulated the Members on doing an outstanding job. He then singled-out our Assigner **Bill 'Grampa' Cook**, who was always on the front lines but somehow got all the games covered in fine SSBRA tradition. The Members could not help themselves but to give Bill a round of applause, though it was unclear as to whether it was for the amazing job he does, the news that he had recently retired from his day job, or for his efforts to grow a new beard - maybe it was for all three.

Applause was the order of the day, as new Members **Carlos Alvarenga** and **Mike Mahoney** introduced themselves

and were enthusiastically welcomed by the crowd. Moving on to other things, Warren reminded everyone that the search was on for the new position of Director of Mentoring, and hinted that there was a paucity of volunteers (in reality there are now a couple of Members showing an interest and the position is being defined in more detail). He then went on to make a speech about how most of the problems SSBRA sees are the result the referee overstepping his/her authority and creating a mess. For holiday reading, it was suggested that Members review Laws 5 and 6, and do only the stuff that they are allowed to do. A few amusing tales were then told of refs making up their own rules and interpretations at matches, and as a result it was also suggested that referees say as little as necessary, and then get out of Dodge once the match is over.

Warren then droned on about the newsletter, web-site and Facebook page (asking for help and submissions as he always does), before turning the meeting over to **Michael 'Ranker' Hinz**. Michel jumped out and announced a surprise quiz on the new Manhattan Beach 7v7 rules, causing concern and nervousness on the part of the meeting attendees. But there was nothing to fear, as Michael supplied all the answers to for the 40 or so questions, with opinions being shared and views expressed.

It was then the turn of **Chris "Not-So-Large-Member" Nevil** to have a chance to speak, and he was not lacking in things to say. He asked all of us to send in game reports directly to him the same day that the incident occurred if possible, or at least by the next morning, and this included a report for every red card given. But he also advised us to use discretion on sending-off folks, citing a recent card issued in a GU11 match.

Chris then turned over the floor to **Steve 'Check-in-the-Mail' Brandon**, who claimed that UCLA checks were sent out, other checks were also on the way, invoices to the leagues had been mailed out....or maybe not, who knows? Bill Cook then surprised us with the news that a tournament requiring a large number of SSBRA referees was in the works for December, and then **Veto 'Jersey' Galati** (to the relief of some) announced that he had nothing to add.

At that point the Cal South guest instructor for the evening, **Szliard 'Call-Me-Joe' Gyalay**, informed us that the topic for the evening was Law 11. He started by saying that USSF had changed things a bit recently with how they wanted offside called, and showed some videos that were intended to clarify what interfering with, and being involved with, play means. But this only inspired the Members to express their own views on the issues, and there were several disagreements and discussions. "Joe" then went on to clarify the difference between a defender deflection of the ball (no offside reset) and defender play - however badly - on the ball (offside reset in this case). To no one's surprise, the Members had a few words to say about that and the videos "Joe" had to try to make the point. Finally he made a speech about a goal-keeper save, seemingly trying to say that a save to prevent a goal was to be treated as a deflection for offside determination purposes. By this time a number of Members were on their feet sharing their views with everyone within hearing distance, and the debate had to be terminated in order to get the raffle started. But even after a few lucky Members won some loot and the meeting was adjourned, the Law 11 arguments could be heard continuing as everyone headed to the parking lot.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, November 22, 2013**

- Discussed a "bad boy" who was getting in the habit of being late to matches. Appropriate action was taken
- Discussed another bad boy, who was seen to be taking liberties with the LOTG, action taken
- Discussed another bad boy and his inappropriate behavior, action to be taken
- Accepted new Member applications for **Carl Kaemerle, Holly Kaemerle and Misha Ostapchik**
- New Member clinics will continue as needed
- New Director of Mentoring position discussed some more
- CSL and DSL seasons virtually complete, no outstanding issues
- New bylaws and financial page will be added to ssbra.org

- Michael will prepare a quiz on the Manhattan Beach 7v7 rules for the November meeting
- The “Pika Rule” was invoked and the meeting was adjourned before 10 PM

## NEXT MONTHLY MEETING

**THE NEXT MEETING IS ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2014 AT 7:30 P.M. IN THE LIBRARY OF NORTH TORRANCE HIGH SCHOOL, 3620 182<sup>ND</sup> ST. (AT YUKON - SEE SSBRA.ORG FOR DETAILED MAPS). THERE WILL, ALAS, BE NO MEETING IN DECEMBER 2013. COME AND FIND OUT ABOUT UPCOMING STATE AND NATIONAL CUP GAMES, HEAR POSSIBLE SURPRISE ANNOUNCEMENTS, GET THE CHANCE TO PONTIFICATE IN FRONT OF THE MEMBERSHIP, AND PARTAKE OF CAL SOUTH-SUPPLIED TRAINING.**

### Quote of the Month (Author unknown)

“If there’s no soccer in Heaven, I’m not going.”

### We’ve All Heard This One Before



**“Remember, son. All of my vicarious hopes and dreams are riding on your shoulders ... Now get out there and have fun!”**

### Can’t They Just Stop Playing This Game and Get Along?

By Bill Dwyre

The game of (American) football has evolved over the years with different formations. We've had the single-wing, the

split-T, the wildcat. Now, we have a new one. The concussion circle. The only player involved in this formation is the poor guy on the ground in the middle. The others are medical personnel, who are asking questions, checking eyeballs and taking the helmet away. There were three NFL games on Thanksgiving Day. We expected the usual amount of violent head-smacking. We weren't disappointed.

The Packers' **Ryan Taylor** catches a pass and gets sandwiched. There is a jolting helmet hit from the Lions' **DeAndre Levy**. To Levy's credit, he seems decently concerned. Often in these situations, the hitter does a celebration dance while the hittee is being asked to remember his phone number. Taylor, looking as if he has just received a **George Foreman** punch combination, is escorted off by the concussion circle. He returns later. No word on his phone number recollection.

In the Raiders-Cowboys game, Oakland's **Rashad Jennings** is having a huge game until he is kneed in the head. For a while, he doesn't even twitch. Eventually, the concussion circle points Jennings in the direction of the sideline and escorts him on a walk he'll never remember. This one is officially diagnosed: concussion. See you playing next week. (Let's hope not.)

Then there is **Le'Veon Bell's** short dash to the goal line for the Steelers in the closing moments of their loss to the Ravens. As he flies toward the end zone, he is hammered, helmet to helmet, by **Jimmy Smith**. Bell's now-helmet-less head slams to the turf in the sub-freezing Ravens stadium. He stays down. So does Smith. It is ruled that, even though Bell carried the ball into the end zone, it is not a touchdown because, as replays showed, his helmet came off before the ball crossed the goal line. And the NFL rule now — one of those nice window-dressing changes meant to assure the public that everything possible is being done for the safety of the players — says the ball is dead the second the helmet comes off. The Steelers eventually score the touchdown, but lose on a failed two-point conversion. Somebody will have to show Bell the film. When the concussion circle escorts him off, he appears uncertain what planet he is on, much less what team.

Head injuries in football, on all levels, are not new. But with all the attention they are getting these days, thanks in part to increased media coverage of the arrogance of the longtime NFL cover-up, they are now foremost in the public's frontal lobe.

A short time after a dazed Taylor is escorted off, network commentator **Troy Aikman**, the former UCLA star who was an even bigger star quarterback with the Cowboys, notes that Taylor's Green Bay teammate, **Eddie Lacy**, "is not as effective since he had that concussion." The YouTube replay shows the Redskins' **Brandon Meriweather** making the hit on Lacy. Helmet to helmet. Lacy sits on the turf, wondering what turf is. That was Sept. 15. This is Nov. 28.

Aikman sympathizes, saying it can take a long time to recover from a concussion. Few would know better than Aikman, who was driven out of the game by them, in an era well before the concussion circle formation. In "League of Denial," the recent PBS "Frontline" show about concussions in football, Aikman's former agent, **Leigh Steinberg**, tells of visiting Aikman after one of the concussion games and having Aikman ask him the same question, over and over again. Steinberg's description of the scene was graphic and frightening.

We can only wonder what parents of Pop Warner sons are thinking as they watch and wonder about all this.

It is clear what the parents of **Tyler Lewellen** of Riverside Arlington High think. Their son died a few days after losing consciousness following a tackle in a practice game Aug. 22. A nicely done recent story by **Billy Witz** in the New York Times captures the fallout and aftershock not only to his family but to the entire Arlington team. It is a portrait of teenagers trying to make sense out of, and carry on nobly, with a sport that adults around them have offered up as character-building and manhood-forming.

The emotion of the parents of **Jordan Walker**, Corona Santiago High player, is clear. Their every thought is sadness. They were to be in attendance Friday night at a playoff game between Upland and Centennial. There, both teams were to take a pregame knee together in a moment of silence and prayer that Walker would recover from a paralyzing spinal injury suffered last week in a playoff game against Upland. When that happened, the concussion circle became a stretcher-carrying circle, even a prayer circle. Walker's injury wasn't a concussion, but it was football trauma, often

potentially deadly. We are seeing all too much of that on all levels of the game.

Walker is 16. Lewellen was too.

Football is not going away. It would be heresy to even advocate that. It is a sport with tentacles deep into our society's economy. It is entrenched as a way of life in our schools and communities, where it is a source of identity and self-esteem.

It is our version of a civilized war game. The problem is, we keep moving the boundaries of what is civilized.

## You Do The Math

"And Farmer has now scored 19 goals, exactly double the number he scored last season"

-- **Garry Lyon**, Australian Football Commentator

## This Can't be Good

By **Shira Spring**

It was a fight to the death with all the blood, guts, and barbaric cruelty found in *Game of Thrones*. But it was horrifyingly real. Earlier this summer, during an amateur soccer match in the Brazilian state of Maranhao, a referee and player argued over a call. The ref pulled out a knife and fatally stabbed the player. Then, other players and spectators rushed onto the field, killed the referee, and sliced off his legs, arms, and head with a sickle. The murderous rampage ended with the man's head on a stake in the middle of the soccer pitch.

While the stomach-turning violence marked a new nadir for the sports world, it was one of many recent assaults on officials. On June 30 in Lynn, police say, a player repeatedly attacked a referee who had issued a red penalty card during a US Latin Soccer League contest. The ref spent two days in the hospital, recovering from a broken facial bone, deep forehead laceration, and black eye. The player was charged with assault and battery, and his two brothers were also charged for their alleged roles in the incident.

Questioning calls or confronting sports officials is nothing new. Tennis player **John McEnroe** reached hysterical heights with his rants. Yankees manager **Billy Martin** kicked dirt on umpires. But recent attacks on officials don't remotely fall into the same ballpark. "There was nothing like this in the old days," says **Barry Mano**, the founder and president of the National Association of Sports Officials. "It's escalating, but more importantly, the nature of this has changed."

Fights between players and officials, coaches and officials, and fans and officials are happening with alarming frequency and increasing brutality, predominantly at amateur games of every kind. At least once a week, Mano's group receives reports of sports officials being physically abused. Those calls come only from the association's 20,000 members; Mano believes many incidents go unreported.

In June, a Newark little league coach pleaded guilty to assaulting an umpire. The official suffered a fractured skull and hearing loss in his left ear. In Sarasota, Florida, nearly two years ago, football players and coaches attacked a referee, leaving him with a shoulder fracture and back and neck injuries. Authorities charged three adults and one juvenile with battery. In a Salt Lake City suburb, after being penalized with a yellow card, a soccer player punched a recreation-league ref in the head. The man slipped into a coma and died in early May.

The cases shock, disturb, and reflect a less civil, more aggressive society. The wired world encourages impatience and impulsiveness. Sometimes we hit send and referees without thinking. "Sports is simply life with the volume turned up,"

says Mano, who officiated basketball for 23 years. And the adrenaline and passion that fuel athletic competition can create potentially unsafe circumstances.

Youth and recreational leagues present a particularly dangerous combination of the least skilled players, the least skilled coaches, the least skilled referees, and the most passionate fans in parents and other relatives. Heavily invested players, coaches, and fans always outnumber officials, and as the inevitable bearers of bad news, refs and umps present easy targets. In youth and recreational leagues, officials often find themselves with little, if any, security. To protect themselves, they must police the action on the field and the atmosphere around it. Maybe that was why the slain Brazilian referee brought a knife with him.

But all is not lost. More violent attacks against sports officials have brought more attention to the issue and more resolve to keep games safe for all involved, especially in the United States after the death of the Utah referee. One solution involves increased security at games. Making law enforcement more visible might discourage would-be attackers. Tougher penalties might work as a deterrent, too. Currently, there are 21 states with legislation that specifically addresses assaults against sports officials, 19 with criminal laws and two with civil statutes. Massachusetts is not one of those states, according to Mano's group. In Utah, also where no specific law covers violence committed against refs, the 17-year-old player who killed the referee with a punch pleaded guilty to homicide by assault on August 5. A parole board will decide whether the teenager serves the maximum sentence and stays in juvenile prison until he turns 21.

Better behavior by professional athletes, coaches, and parents may be the simplest way to protect officials, particularly in youth sports. After all, young athletes imitate what they see on television and take cues from adults on the sidelines. The police report from Utah indicates that the attacker fled the crime scene with his father. Later, the teen admitted his guilt. In court proceedings, he said, "I was frustrated at the ref and caused his death," and he sent a message that players, coaches, and fans must be accountable for their actions. Someday cooler heads may draw more attention than one head on a stake.

## **Thought of the Month (recent horoscope)**

"You're feeling patient and will have a high tolerance for those difficult people no one else wants to deal with."

## **And on the First Day, Terry Said.....**

The High School soccer preseason had begun, and **Terry "Let There Be Light" Didelot** was at Fairfax High with the **Large Member** for a mid-week afternoon double header. Not wanting to hurt Terry's ears, the L.M. promised not to try to speak his awful version of the French language, and the first, varsity, game went off without much trouble. But the Fall sun was going down and, being told that the stadium lights were not available, the refs hurried things along to get the JV match started. As halftime came, it was getting darker and darker, so it was decided to go with a 2 minute interval and get the second half started before the light faded. Alas, after only a couple of minutes, it became clear that it was too dark to play, and, with the agreement of the L.M., Terry raised his arms and inhaled to blow the whistle to terminate the match. And then a miracle occurred, as at that instant (really), and without any human intervention, the stadium lights came on! Both referees were stunned into immobile wonder - the match was saved from a premature ending, and the players were able to continue on to a normal game conclusion. At the post game conference, Terry was unable to explain his new-found God-like powers, but was glad that everyone was able to enjoy a complete game.

## Concussion Detection 101 (submitted by David Martin)



“You took a hard blow to the head. I’ll tell coach you’re OK to go back in the game if you can answer these three simple questions correctly.”

## Watch Out for Those Arms

By Carl P. Schwartz

During entry-level and re-certification classes and at association meetings, referees hear lectures on “Game Control,” “Keep Your Cool,” and “Be Careful What You Say.” They often hear the old cliché, “You can’t be misquoted if you don’t say anything.” The more important factor common to those topics — the player. Yes, referees have to learn not to add gasoline to a fire (making an already heated situation worse by poor posture, unwisely chosen words, the wrong tone of voice or dismissive hand gestures). But, players must also learn how to argue.

**It will happen.** Referees *must* come to accept that players are going to argue about your decisions. Do not expect an entire game to pass with no comments to “help” you make better decisions in the future. You will be questioned.

You can learn from how players argue. By understanding how a player should argue, officials will be better able to handle the situation. Using some famous, older coaches as examples, there is clearly a wrong way to do it — Indiana’s **Bob Knight**, the Orioles’ **Earl Weaver** and the Yankees’ **Billy Martin**. The rip-the-bag-out-of-the-ground, throw-your-hat, kick-some-dirt kind of arguing is never going to be helpful. Throwing a chair halfway across a basketball court can only bring one expectation and outcome — dismissal.

**NBA.** The NBA has seen a reversal of fortune recently. Arguing had become a ritual — nearly every decision met with outbursts, slapping the floor, running the length of the court, hands held skyward to plead to a higher authority, etc. Granted, the NBA staff is much smaller than the 100,000-plus cadre of NFHS, NISOA and USSF referees, but they united in a common front and doled out technical fouls to those who didn’t get the message by announcements and briefings.

**Soccer has done it once.** A decade ago, it was very common to see a player seated on the ground raise an imaginary card and “show” it to the referee to imply that the opponent should be carded. At every level, referees were asked to display a yellow card to the person trying to influence their decision. Within three years, it largely disappeared.

**Pat Smith.** The great mentor and father of the USSF assessment program, Pat Smith, often advised that arguments (dissent) should be dealt with how it comes to you. If a player comes near you and talks to you, asks what he did wrong or suggest the opponent was also holding him, that referee has 20 options to deal with the dissent. The referee has an “out” to handle it in a low-key fashion.

**Arms flapping.** When a player comes running from 20-25 yards, voice at full throttle and arms waving repeatedly, the player is restricting your options. You *have* to at least caution that player. The player might even have a valid point, but if the player isn’t composed enough to present that point — it is misconduct.

**Other no-nos.** Certain forms of arguing are unacceptable at any level. The most obvious: making physical contact with an official during an argument. Starting the sentence with “You” or “You’re” (making it personal) directly before a derogatory term, swearing loudly enough for fans and others to hear and tossing equipment. When a team official steps onto the field to argue a point during on-going play is another “automatic.”

When a player sees an opponent make a reasoned argument to an official in a rational voice — and sees the referee’s behavior change based on that logically presented thought — the player is being taught how to argue. When a player sees five players running, shouting and arms flapping, and sees five yellow cards — the player is being taught how not to argue.

*Carl P. Schwartz is Referee’s soccer coordinator. He was a USSF and NISOA National Assessor, a State Instructor and refereed more than 3,800 games in the U.S., Germany and England.*

## **Sometimes It IS Those Little Things That Count**

“We must have had 99 percent of the game. It was the other three percent that cost us the match.”  
-- **Ruud Gullit**

## **Reza Has a Thing or Three to Say Too**

By **Reza Pazirandeh**

Referee long enough and you will have a game that starts like any other but at some point you will find yourself wondering, “What did I do wrong to lose control and have a brawl on my hands?” Worse yet, recent months show an increased number of reported assaults on referees. Below are eight changes in player behavior that indicate the game is heating up. Those indicators are followed by measures that the referee can take to prevent the game from reaching an explosive point:

**1. Verbal manifestations.** Increased uncomplimentary language toward opponents; objecting to referee decisions verbally or through body language. Incidental foul language also shows disrespect for the game and opponents and signals early frustration.

**2. Physical manifestations.** Lack of tolerance for body contact that was acceptable earlier in the game;



irritability by players toward their opponents.

**3. Lack of respect for referee's decisions.** Dissent — objecting to referee's decisions.

**4. Increased speed.** Players running faster and working harder. Increased sense of urgency to the game apart from the will to win.

**5.** Increased intensity and emotions. Players showing a sense of urgency and being edgy.

**6. Increased physicality.** More rough play and body contact.

**7. Implicit or explicit retaliation.** Players' body language showing a lack of tolerance for physical contact. Therefore, you will see more reaction by players — from raising elbows, pushing back or outright retaliation.

**8. Increase in carelessness and recklessness.** Slide tackling opponents carelessly (tackles may even miss the target) or charging opponents illegally.

A sporadic incidence of those signs, by itself, may not mean you are losing control. But especially when players on both teams start exhibiting a couple of those symptoms, things are heating up. As those signs increase in number and intensity, apply the following as needed:

**Stay calm.** There are two main reasons for that. First, you will be able to concentrate better and have a clearer head for making decisions — that way, you will not react and do something that will make matters worse. Second, being calm yourself can be contagious.

**Stay focused.** Concentrate on the task at hand. Be aware of your surroundings, players' body language, what is said by players, substitutes, coaches, etc. Keep a long, obvious lingering look on challenges after the ball is cleared or crossed.

**Work harder.** Run faster; don't fall behind play. That is the time to be in the right place to see the play at the proper angle. Let the players know you are there. Anticipate the play. Assess the optimum distance to the play. Too close and you may miss off-the-ball fouls. Too far and you may not be able to see fouls clearly and deal with them effectively. So, be on your toes — literally.

**Get help from your assistants.** If your assistants are experienced and you know them, they probably know what they have to do in those situations. Otherwise, if you can get a few seconds to talk to them, do so. You can also use a subtle hand signal (such as a closed fist to indicate that you want to tighten the game). Assistants can also help by talking to players as they challenge for the ball close to the touchlines.

**Scott McCaslin**, of Arvada, Colo., is an Emeritus National Referee who spent 12 years on the list and is now retired from officiating MLS games. Since he spent most of his career as an assistant referee, he offered, "If the assistant referee has recognized the game is changing for the worse, effective communication with the referee is paramount to preventing a mess. Early identification is key."

**One specific technique.** McCaslin also said, "Often in a challenging game, the referee will get tunnel vision and start missing the 'indicators' that something is brewing. Good communication with the assistant referees can certainly help with preventing escalation. Frequently, the assistant referee will have a different view of what is happening on the field and can assist the referee in identifying potential problems. As an assistant, an effective technique to assist the referee is: After making eye contact with the referee, point to your eye and then to the

two players who are on their way to further problems. For that technique to be effective and understood, it needs to be covered in the pregame.”

**Call more fouls.** **Heinz Wolmerath**, former FIFA referee, often emphasizes calling more fouls. It is a good way to bring the game under your control. Loosen up again when the players show they can handle the increased intensity.

**Be selective about giving advantage.** Advantage, as the great English referee and clinician **Ken Aston** used to say, is a two-edged sword. The more advantage you give, the more control you give up. So, when the game heats up, you need to gain control — that means less use of advantage.

**Timely cards.** You must deal wisely with dissent and reckless fouls. If you don’t, you are at a far greater risk of losing match control.

**Slow down the game.** Calling more fouls (as suggested) is one way to slow down the game and gives the players a chance to cool off. Take a moment to speak with an assistant. Check the ball pressure. While the typical advice is to keep the ball in play, there are moments when everyone needs to stop for a quick “re-set.”

**Talk to agitated players.** Be calm but firm. Talking to agitated players might soothe hurt feelings, and saying the right thing to upset players will help them get control of themselves. If a player complains about a foul you think you may have missed, be empathetic but differentiate that from dissent and questioning your judgment.

As the game heats up and the emotions rise, you and your assistants must remain calm and clear-headed to deal with emotional players (and most likely coaches and spectators, in your typical youth game). Frankly, that is very similar to how, as parents, we need to deal with our upset and emotional teenage children. Stay above it and act like an adult. Do not get caught up in the emotions. Do not take offensive behavior toward you personally (they’re yelling at the shirt, not at you); although, sometimes that is easier said than done.

Despite your best efforts, you may still lose control of the game due to various factors — some of which may be difficult to anticipate. The good news is that most referees do well on the majority, if not all, of our games mainly because we learn how to maintain control as we grow in the sport and learn the art of refereeing.

## **Another Thought of the Month (recent horoscope)**

“You’re in the game to master it. If you learn from your mistakes, you eventually will come around to being glad you made them.”

## **At Least This Player Listens to His Coach (Author unknown)**

”During one of a BU7 indoor tournament games, a coach yelled out to one of his players who was playing defense ‘Push Up, Push Up’. The child went to the floor and did a push up.....”

## Season's Greetings (submitted by Bill Cook)

'Twas the week before Christmas when all round the pitch, not a ref was a' stirring, not even a twitch.  
Their whistles were hung by the goalposts with care, in hopes that their tournament checks would soon be there.  
Their flags were nestled all snug in their beds, while visions of foot rubs danced in their heads.  
And our spouses in kerchiefs and we in our caps (all black), had just settled down for our long winter's nap.  
When up at Nansen, there arose such a clatter, I rose from my bed to see what was the matter.  
Away to the window I flew like a flash, tore open the shutters and threw up the sash.  
The season was over, I assigned my last game, then FRAM wanted a "friendly", that is so lame.  
When, what to my wondering eyes should appear, 3 tiny "termites" with all their gear.  
We can cover the game, so lively and quick. I thought for a moment, this must be a trick.  
They spoke not a word but went straight to their work, and finished the game with 'nary a quirk.  
They gathered their gear and went straight to their cars but I heard them exclaim as they drove out of sight.  
Our Assignor is crafty but not very bright.

**Merry Christmas to All and to All a good night.**

*Thanks for a great season.*

## Just In Case You Were Not Already Feeling Old.....



11-19  
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**"Grandma told me she used to have to lick stamps. Was she kidding?"**