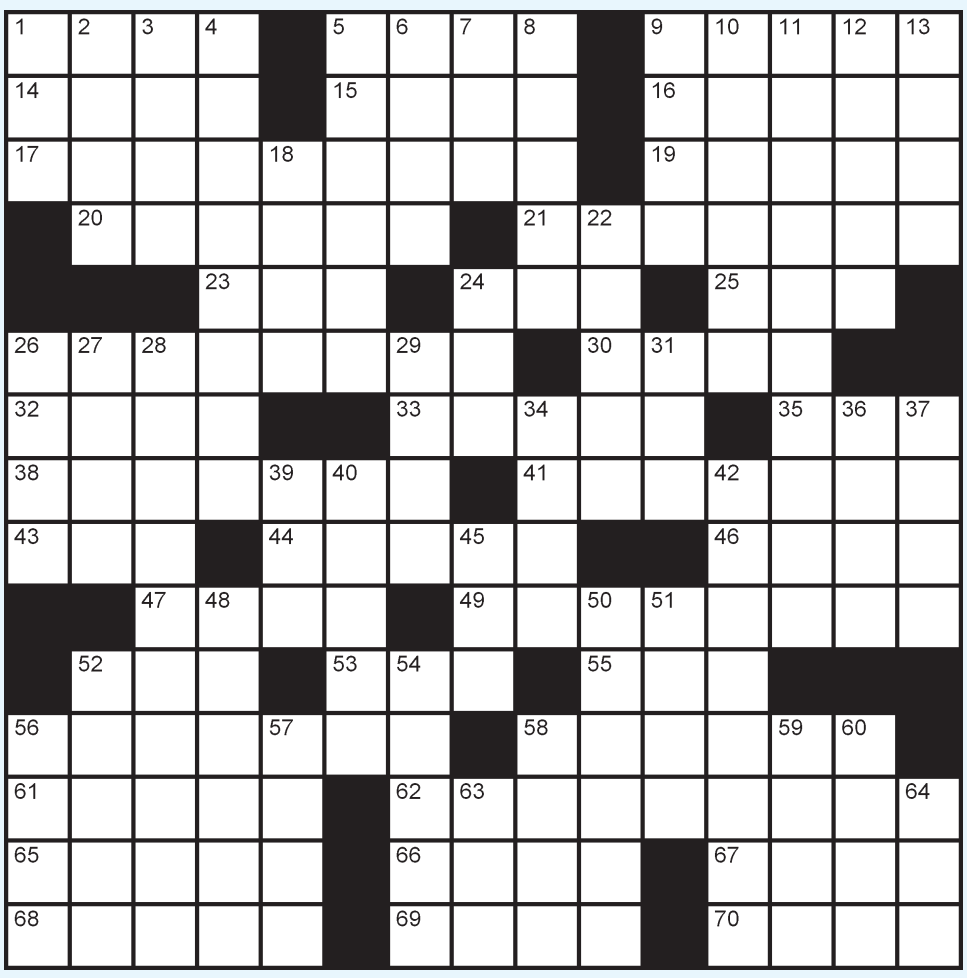
B-Minus *by Paul Coulter*

Universal Crossword edited by David Steinberg



ACROSS

1 CD's second part?
5 What you make with a rake
9 Japanese comic style
14 State south of Minnesota
15 Frozen drink brand
16 French for "love"
17 School storage spot marked with a Greek H?
19 Flood barrier
20 Relative of a bureau
21 Scottish girl who needs to see the doctor?
23 Japanese drama style
24 Born, in bios
25 Believer's suffix
26 Feeling during a highway race?
30 Dip served with salsa, informally
32 Other, in Uruguay
33 Arm bones
35 Buckeyes' sch.
38 Chest protector
41 Din
43 Vegan protein source
44 Baffled
46 Currency in Oman
47 Diamond Head's island
49 Have no corn?
52 Elaborate Persian product
53 Battering ___
55 ___ v. Wade
56 With 62-Across, "Take that horse on a long journey, handler"?
58 Pursue intently
61 Desktop pictures
62 See 56-Across
65 Wards (off)
66 The "E" in QED
67 "I'm ___ you!"
68 Milk-Bone biscuit, e.g.
69 Is worth doing
70 Have a sudden inspiration?

DOWN

1 Conk out
2 Teensy amount
3 Convention giveaways
4 One may have 365 pages
5 Machu ___
6 Disgusting, to a kid
7 "Malcolm X" director Spike
8 Spine-tingling
9 D.C.'s National ___
10 Earhart in aviation history
11 Province next to New Brunswick
12 Person to entertain
13 "Iliad" war god
18 ___ about (circa)
22 Like marijuana, in California
24 Pittsburgh Penguins' org.
26 Monica's brother in "Friends"
27 Name within "carrottop"
28 "Anything else?"
29 Addition results
31 Home of L.A. and La.
34 Final Four org.
36 Cook, like scallops
37 Web addresses
39 "Don't think so"
40 One-eighty
42 Arboreal amphibian
45 Sturdy source of shade
48 List for a meeting
50 Salad oil holders
51 "King" or "Donkey" follower
52 Potato-processing gizmo
54 Worker who receives many promotions, informally?
56 Break in relations
57 ___ prof.
58 Greeting in Sydney
59 Chaplin of the upcoming "Avatar 2"
60 What fruit eventually does
63 Roth ___
64 Floor cleaner

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

SUNDAY, APRIL 18, 2021 *Anger, Air Bags and the Aries Conjunction*

Anger is a secondary emotion, usually rooted in fear. The ego likes anger for that puffed-up feeling it lends, like an air bag inflating in a flash to protect from impact. But what if there is no impact? The air bag going off unnecessarily offers its own kind of harm. The sun/Mercury conjunction suggests the empowerment of slow, deliberate breath.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The people close to you should have your best interests at heart. As for those competitive "friends" who secretly wish you weren't as great as you are – they may still have a place in your life, but it's not in the inner circle.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). One cannot grow and still hang on to the same old negativity. Because you love your own development, you drop anything that smacks of pride or petty grievances, and with lightness of heart, you move forward.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You've learned the subtle signals your loved ones give when something is bothering them. You'll gently tease out the story in just the manner that cracks open the trouble, airing it to the daylight.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). There's a sister, or a sisterlike person, in your midst who needs what you can give. If you give it, you might never be repaid, at least not directly, and yet you will also be richer for having offered this kindness.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You know how to impress the others, but it's a hollow win. It's far better to impress yourself, and if you happen to pick up any accolades along the way, you'll consider it a bonus.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). When they come to you with questions you can answer, it feels good to be able to help. When they come to you with questions you can't answer, it gives you ideas about what to learn next.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're just following your curiosity and doing your job, but you end up growing your expertise in the process, and your influence naturally expands. With increasing power comes increasing responsibility.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). It's happened before that you got what you wanted and then were somehow vaguely unsatisfied. This time, you'll question your wants and get to the bottom of *why* you want it, which helps your chances of a fortifying outcome.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Intentionally focus on what there is to be happy about. To appreciate and enjoy where you're at is more than just a good practice; it's a tool that keeps you connected to the best parts of your humanity.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Most judgments are made so quickly you hardly know you are making them. It takes self-awareness (and gives good fortune) to pause before solidifying your stance and ask more questions before rendering a decision.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Everyone is looking for that person who makes them feel more alive. But today, that heart quickening comes not through a person but through a situation that calls out the best that's inside you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). It is said that one cannot mourn a thing that was never possessed. This adage only holds for those with lesser imaginations than you. You can so fully embody a dream that to celebrate or mourn it also follows naturally.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 18). The year is characterized by rhapsodic living and fervent love. Your enthusiasm for little and big things alike will continue to attract people who prove your theory: Life is juicy and sweet. You bring substance and hard work with the aim of sharing the good stuff, and angels meet you at the juncture with just what you need. Gemini and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 1, 11, 30, 21 and 17.

Universal SUDOKU

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

6		1	8	4	9			7
				2	5	8		4
		8						
1							6	
		6	1	5	3	7		
	4							8
						4		
5		9	4	3				
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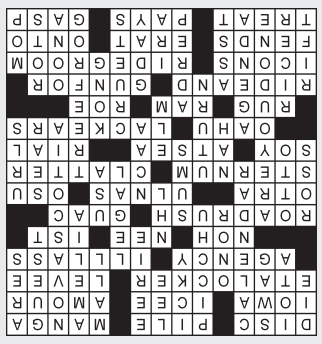
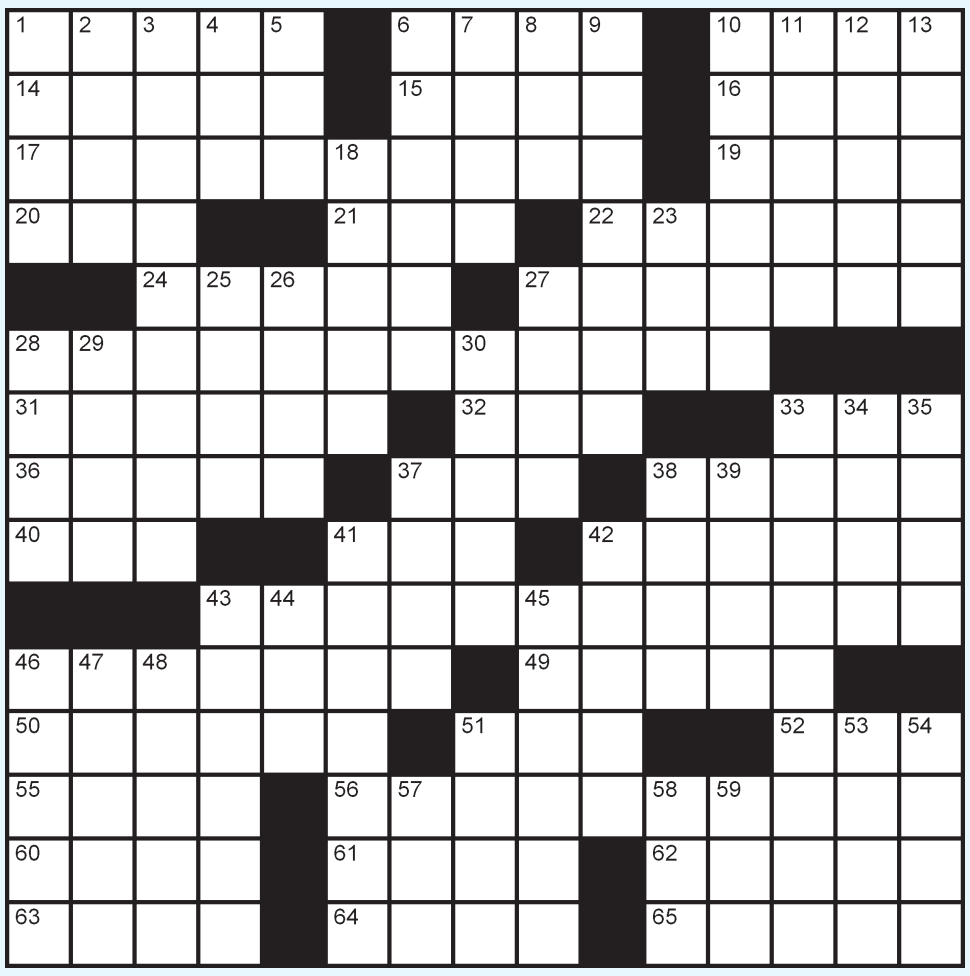
DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★★

SOLUTIONS



Coin Return *by Fred Piscop*

Universal Crossword edited by David Steinberg



ACROSS

1 Penne or ziti
6 Hardly flashy
10 Applies carefully
14 What supposedly surrounds Atlantis
15 Texter's "seize the day"
16 Cartman on "South Park"
17 Lamb Chop's puppeteer (see letters 6 to 3 in this answer)
19 "No way" guy?
20 "___ making a list ..."
21 Brunch drinks, for short
22 Apply a BBQ rub to, say
24 Yo-Yo Ma's instrument
27 Circulation aid in a room
28 Vacation planner's destination? (9 to 5)
31 Matures, as an orange
32 Title for Ringo Starr
33 With 52-Across, common end for a riddle
36 Like the noble gases
37 Not even so-so
38 Bugged incessantly
40 Gives the go-ahead to
41 Pig such as the 2,552-pound Big Bill
42 "Want me to?"
43 Reaction to cold (6 to 3)
46 Part of some city streets
49 Wee hour
50 Open, as a wine bottle
51 Duke's sports org.
52 See 33-Across
55 Ragout or ratatouille
56 Sign of insufficient sleep, perhaps (8 to 6)
60 Pitchfork part
61 Heche of 1998's "Psycho"
62 Big-city
63 Huskies' haul
64 Train whistle noise
65 49ers tackle Williams

DOWN

1 Richly furnished
2 Post-Pilates feeling
3 Paintings with water colors?
4 Roadwork gunk
5 DiFranco of Righteous Babe Records
6 Hair salon treatment
7 Propels a scull
8 "Thrilla in Manila" boxer
9 More like an older brother, maybe
10 "Been there, done that" feeling
11 Became apparent
12 Beast on old nickels
13 Bloodhound's clue
18 Vegges out
23 Defining period
25 Follower of "happily"
26 Penitent time
27 Unfit for farming
28 "Power" rock group, typically
29 Curling venue
30 Water meter reading
33 "Perhaps, or perhaps not"
34 In tip-top shape
35 Redding who recorded "Respect"
37 Brand of speakers
38 Words of self-pity
39 Cantina bite
41 Signals on the freeway?
42 "___ you asked ..."
43 Looked radiant
44 Scull implement
45 Pool player's target
46 Breaks apart
47 Up to
48 Clip from a movie
51 Part of A.D.
53 Like a junkyard dog
54 "This ___ my day!"
57 Card game with a Batman version
58 Pecan, for one
59 Drop the ball

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

MONDAY, APRIL 19, 2021 *Mercury Opens the Taurus Season*

Today begins the season of the bull whose cosmic quote is, "I have." Taurus is the realm of money, material possessions, appetite and that which satisfies the senses. Mercury rolls into Taurus first, like the crier who enters the streets blocks before the king, ringing the bell and alerting all to ready themselves for the royal arrival.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). When you are rooting for someone, you will give that person so many chances – second, third, fourth – because you sincerely believe that when they finally win, so will you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). No one standing on the earth with the other gravity-bound earthlings can possibly have the all-seeing perspective (or even a "most-seeing" perspective). You never assume you've seen enough. Today brings new angles.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You have this way of making time stop; something you do for others without being remotely aware of it yourself. For that person who thinks the world of you, time stands still while you're together.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You've done a fair amount of living, yet there's much you haven't experienced. When you get a little bored today, it's a cue to start up the old wonder machine and aim it toward all the new feelings you've yet to feel.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You will take action and move things forward – and probably without a plan, as planning feels entirely unnecessary to you. The route is already inside you, etched into the compass of your heart.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). It is absolutely possible to adapt negative emotions into positive behavior. Getting good at this alchemical skill will change your attitude about shadowy feelings. Instead of dreading them, you'll welcome the fuel.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You greatly underestimate the effect you have on others. While it's better to err on the side of modesty, just know that how and when you show up matters greatly to someone. Your arrival will be gleefully anticipated.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There are those who would lead you to believe that what you're trying to accomplish is complicated, when in fact it's pretty simple. You've already nailed the hardest part – being brave enough to take action.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). If you are too literal, detailed and correct in your approach, it may make it difficult to do the most loving thing in the moment. It will benefit you to maintain an openness to other interpretations.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You wish to give people a particular feeling. It's not entirely in your power to do so (as people's feelings are squarely within their own domain), but you'll certainly create an environment conducive to the mood you're after.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Extreme measures are not necessary. It's true they will shake your life up, make a memory and cause a temporary change. But what will work for lasting change will be easy, incremental and repetitious.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). An adrenaline rush can be pleasant or unpleasant depending on your interpretation. Lean into the thrill when this kind of energy spike happens today. Memories will be made.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 19). Among the pleasurable challenges of the year will be the different roles you'll get to play – the leader, the healer, a beloved darling, a cheerleader, a student, a star. Sometimes, there are many roles within the same relationship. You'll love what you learn about the breadth of your abilities, including the ability to love. Scorpio and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 4, 44, 38 and 20.

Universal SUDOKU

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

	7	3		4				6
		5		3	9	8	1	
	9		2	6				4
8		2	6				9	7
7				8				3
6	3				7	2		1
3				9	6		2	
	2	4	8	7		3		
5				2		1	7	

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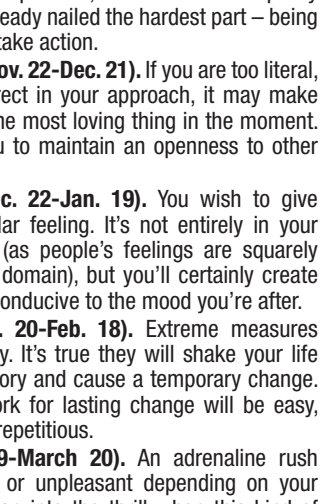
DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

SOLUTIONS