

Friday, February 19, 2021

### Daily Bridge Club

## By the numbers

By FRANK STEWART  
Tribune Content Agency

"Where did you go to college?" I asked Cy the Cynic. "State," Cy said cryptically. "If I had a quarter for every math exam I failed, I'd have eleven dollars and sixty-two cents."

Against Cy's four spades, West led the ten of hearts; jack, queen, ruff. Cy led a club to dummy and a trump to his queen, and West won. The Cynic ruffed the heart return and drew trumps; he had one left. When he led a diamond, West won and led a third heart, forcing out Cy's last trump. Cy took his club tricks, but East won the last two tricks with the ace of diamonds and a heart. Down one.

#### HEART LEADS

Cy failed another math exam. He had six trumps, and as he played, he had to draw three rounds of trumps and handle four heart leads. Seven into six won't go.

After Cy ruffs the second heart, he must lead a diamond. West wins and forces with a heart, and East leads another diamond. When East wins, he can't lead a fourth heart effectively: Dummy has a trump. So Cy can draw trumps and take his tricks.

#### DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠76 ♥KJ2 ♦9652 ♣AK74. Your partner opens one spade, you bid two clubs, he rebids

two spades and you try 2NT. Partner then bids three hearts. What do you say?

**ANSWER:** Your partner suggests six spades, four hearts and minimum strength. If he had a better 6-4 hand such as A Q 10 5 4 3, A Q 9 4, A 3, 2, his second bid would have been three spades or two hearts. Your hand is worth a jump to four spades. Partner may hold A J 10 5 4 3, A Q 5 4, 3, 8 6.

West dealer  
N-S vulnerable

**NORTH**  
♠76  
♥KJ2  
♦9652  
♣AK74

**WEST**  
♥K3  
♦109763  
♦K84  
♣853

**EAST**  
♠542  
♥AQ854  
♦A73  
♣109

**SOUTH**  
♠AQJ1098  
♥None  
♦QJ10  
♣QJ62

West Pass North Pass East 1♥ South 1♠  
2♥ 2NT Pass 4♠  
All Pass

Opening lead — ♥10

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#### SEEKING A FRIENDLY DUPLICATE BRIDGE?

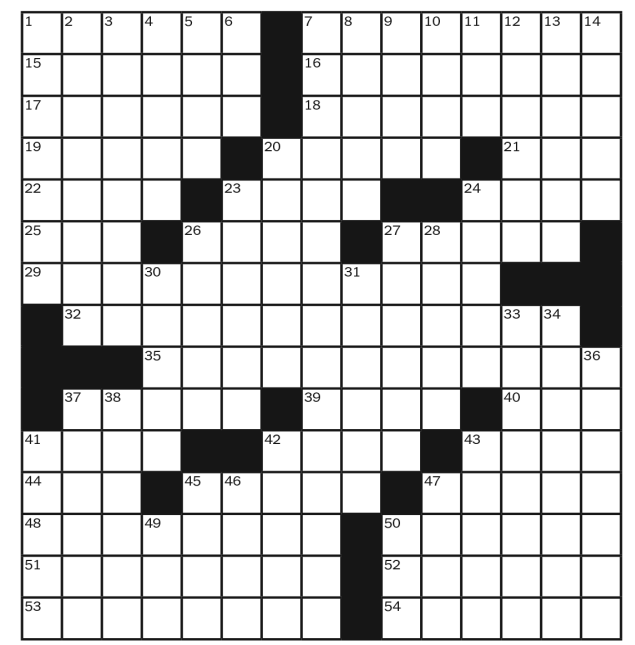
Find five games weekly online at [bendbridge.org](http://bendbridge.org)

# The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0115

- ACROSS**
- Ballpark figure
  - Sentimentality
  - Wallet holder since 2015
  - Hit Netflix reboot starring the Fab Five
  - Matured
  - There's often a lot of them for sale
  - Some office desk clutter
  - Writers Roald and Sophie
  - Bottom of an interrobang
  - Safari's compass, e.g.
  - Feel for
  - Nested layers?
  - Mass
  - Breakneck ... or something to break
  - Sticky snack made with a stick
  - Eclipsed everyone else
  - One getting fired up for competition?
  - Shower heads, perhaps
  - "The Wolf in Sheep's Clothing," for one
  - Mindless
  - Iowa college
  - Game that can be played on bicycles or elephants
  - Change for some sawbucks, maybe
  - Symbols of strength
  - Fantasy monster
  - Catches
  - XXXL
  - Complete loss of self-identity
  - Hot streak?
  - Where one might hear a call for action
  - Metaphorical incentive
  - Members of some blended families
  - Goes quietly, perhaps
- DOWN**
- Honchos
  - Fruits that are the basis of Marillenschnaps
  - Dance with jerky movements
  - Actress Julie of "Modern Family"
  - Cross to bear
  - Casual agreement
  - Topic in property law, colloquially
  - Like a good job, maybe
  - Prominent part of a pump
  - Rx pickups
  - Story \_\_\_\_
  - Honcho
  - County in Northern Ireland
  - Peels off?
  - Spilled the tea, so to speak



PUZZLE BY JOSH KNAPP

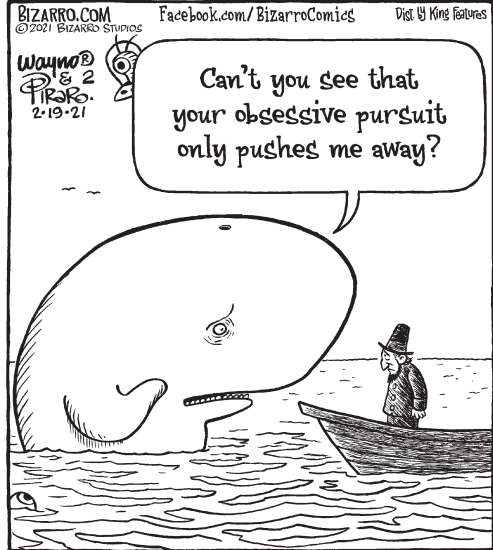
- Model Boyd who inspired the songs "Layla" and "Wonderful Tonight"
- Kind of manual
- Wild
- Uses a manual, say
- Israel's Dayan
- Ferrari alternative, slangily
- Percussion in some folk music that may be improvised
- Captured, in a way
- Fashion designer's portfolio
- Employs as a backup plan, with "to"
- Blanked on
- Recess
- Frost accumulation
- Written in the stars
- Really weird
- Number shown in brackets?
- "Hidden Figures" org.
- \_\_\_ jacket
- Baba ghanouj, e.g.
- Hosts

Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 7,000 past puzzles, [nytimes.com/crosswords](http://nytimes.com/crosswords) (\$39.95 a year).  
Read about and comment on each puzzle: [nytimes.com/wordplay](http://nytimes.com/wordplay).

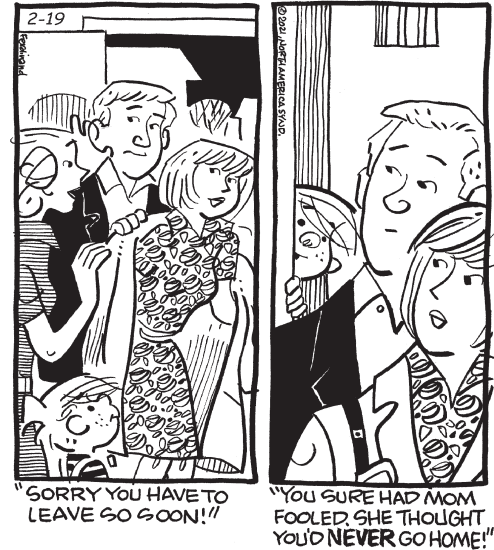
#### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



#### BIZARRO



#### DENNIS THE MENACE



#### HERMAN



#### JUMBLE

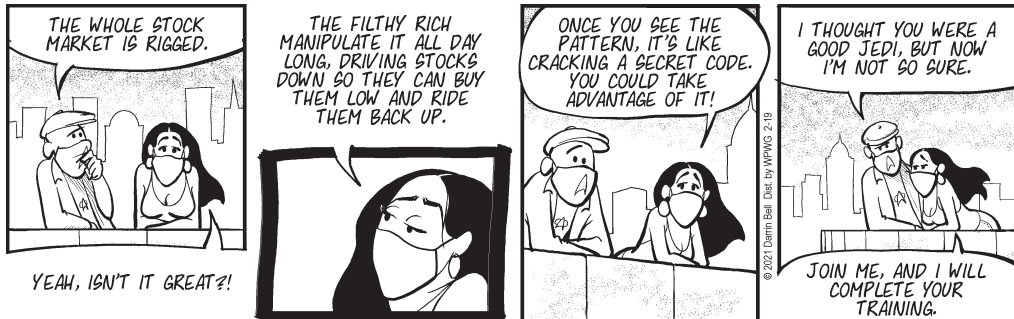
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

EEOSB  
RITDH  
TOCEIP  
CLEHNI

THE

Yesterday's Jumbles: GLINT TEASE SINFUL THRUSH  
Answer: She wanted to go camping, but her new boyfriend was — "RESIST-TENT"

#### CANDORVILLE



#### WUMO



#### ZITS



#### SUDOKU

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

#### SOLUTION TO PREVIOUS SUDOKU

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

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

## Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

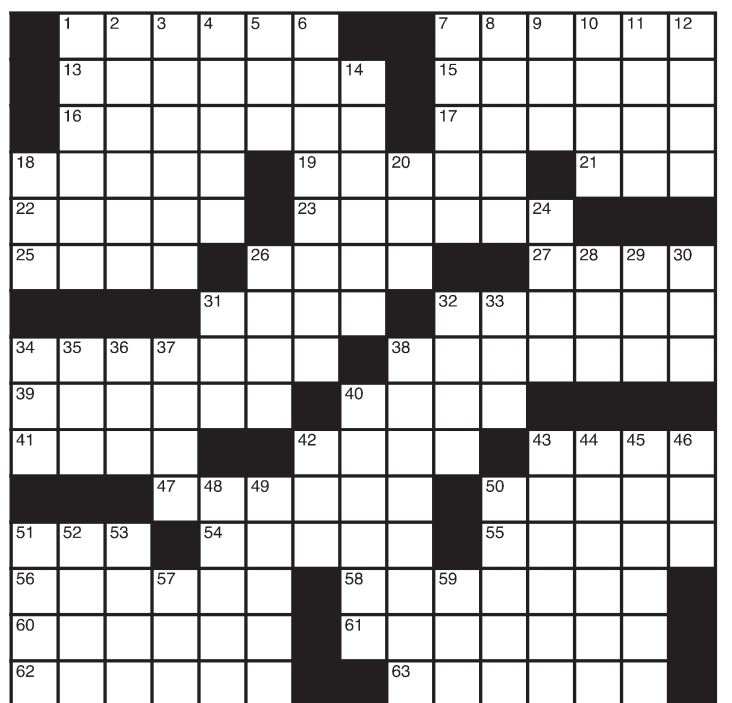
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS**
- Adopted gradually, with "in"
  - Sandpiper family birds
  - One of two sound recommendations for a light sleeper?
  - Shunned one
  - African Queen, for one
  - "Don't doubt my abilities!"
  - January temps, often
  - Do lunch?
  - London's \_\_\_ Gardens
  - Longtime senator Thurmond
  - Battery parts
  - History
  - Short on manners
  - Fraternal order
  - Coil in a garden
  - Prepares for takeoff
  - Extravagant
  - Lot
  - Buttonhole
  - Function
  - Campus figure
  - Storytelling singer Guthrie
  - Declared
  - Like some ornate doorways
  - Fixes tears
  - Firepit residue
  - Speak publicly
  - Advice from colleagues, say
  - With 58-Across, savory base for a canapé ... and the function of a black square in four puzzle rows?
  - See 56-Across
  - Afternoon service
  - One held for ransom
  - Force (upon)
  - Allowed paid use of
  - Main bases: Abbr.
  - Deere rival
  - Ararat craft
  - Shoddy
  - Top player
  - TV pioneer
  - Utter nonsense
  - Deplorable sort
  - "Eureka!"
  - Some decafs
  - Larvin scent since 1927
  - Accustomed (to)
  - Summer hrs.
  - Blush wines
  - Minos' kingdom
  - Formal decrees
  - When Lear disowns Cordelia
  - Young passenger on the 33-Down
  - Rattletrap
  - Spanish "that"
  - Enzyme suffix

#### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

W	A	N	T	C	Z	A	R	O	B	A	M	A
I	R	A	E	H	O	H	O	H	E	R	O	N
S	I	G	N	I	D	E	S	D	A	M	O	N
P	A	N	T	O	M	I	M	E	P	A	N	
S	N	A	P	P	E	A		O	R	I	O	L
A	G	E	R		C	A	N	I	N	E	C	A
				G	A	R		M	E	N	H	T
S	O	N		A	O	N		Y	E	N		
M	U	G	G	E	R	M	U	G		I	S	I
A	R	E	O	L	A		E	S	S	E	N	E
			K	I	T	C	H	E	N	M	A	T
H	A	S	A	T	L	A	Z	E		S	O	R
A	W	A	R	E		A	R	E	A		O	N
T	E	X	T	S		P	E	R	K		N	E

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By Jeffrey Wechsler  
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