

Monday, February 22, 2021

### Daily Bridge Club

## Good news, bad news

By FRANK STEWART  
Tribune Content Agency

The play by today's declarer reminds me of an old dictionary that had pages torn out in both the front and back: It went from bad to worse.

South's leap to four spades was bold. He ruffed the second heart, drew trumps and took the ace, king and queen of clubs. If the jack had dropped, South could have pitched a diamond from dummy on his ten, losing at most two diamonds and a heart.

As it was, West showed out on the third club: bad news. South ruffed his last club in dummy and led a diamond to his king, and West took the ace: worse news. East got two more diamonds for down one.

#### BETTER

The news could have been better. After drawing trumps, South can ruff dummy's last heart and take the A-K of clubs. When East follows low on the next club, South plays the ten.

When the ten wins, the contract is safe. But even if West took the jack, South would make four spades. West would have to lead a diamond, letting South's king score, or lead a heart, conceding a ruff-sluff.

#### DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ 5 3 ♥ A K J 9 8  
♦ A 9 8 7 ♣ 6 3. You open one heart, your partner responds one spade, you

bid two diamonds and he jumps to three hearts. What do you say?

**ANSWER:** Partner's jump is game-invitational. If he wanted to commit to game, he could have bid four hearts or made a temporizing forcing bid. Since your values are minimum, to pass is indicated. If vulnerable, with more to gain by making game, you might risk four hearts.

South dealer  
N-S vulnerable

**NORTH**  
♠ K 10 9 8  
♥ 7 4 2  
♦ 6 5 3  
♣ K 5 4

#### WEST

♠ 5 3  
♥ A K J 9 8  
♦ A 9 8 7  
♣ 6 3

#### EAST

♠ 4 2  
♥ 10 6 5 3  
♦ Q J 10  
♣ J 9 8 7

**SOUTH**  
♠ A Q J 7 6  
♥ Q  
♦ K 4 2  
♣ A Q 10 2

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

Opening lead — ♥ K

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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

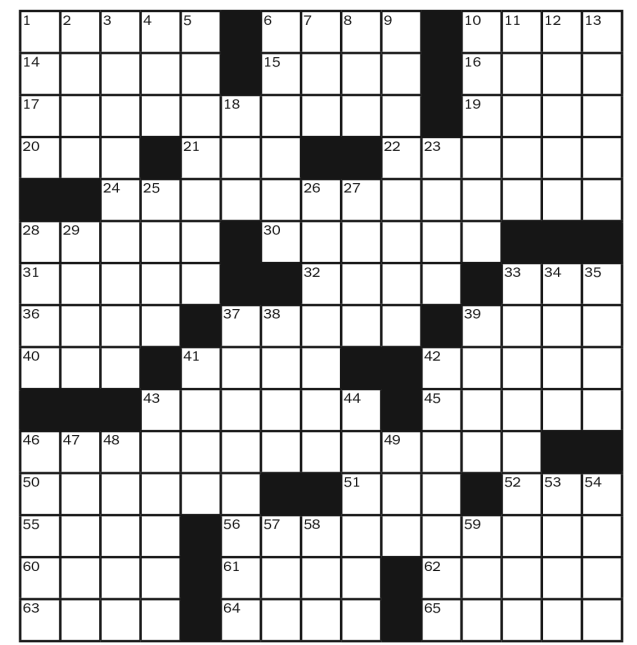
No. 0118

- ACROSS**
- 1 Get ready to hem, say
  - 6 Hankering
  - 10 Thomas Edison's middle name
  - 14 Boxing venue
  - 15 \_\_\_ Hari (W.W. I spy)
  - 16 Russian "no"
  - 17 City where you won't find the Eiffel Tower
  - 19 Cotton processors
  - 20 Not to mention ...
  - 21 Org. for which Jason Bourne works in "The Bourne Identity"
  - 22 Author Charlotte, Emily or Anne
  - 24 City where you won't find the Parthenon
  - 28 1965 Alabama march site
  - 30 Saintry "Mother"
  - 31 Utopian
  - 32 Plant on a trellis
  - 33 1950s White House nickname
  - 36 "Nuts!"
  - 37 Gets ready, as for surgery
  - 39 Insect flying in a cloud
  - 40 CPR pro
  - 41 Sound made by helicopter rotors
  - 42 Rings, as a church bell
  - 43 Yasir of the P.L.O.
  - 45 What the back of a store might open onto
  - 46 City where you won't find Virgil's Tomb
  - 50 Pal of Jerry on "Seinfeld"
  - 51 Driveway material
  - 52 QB successes
  - 55 Excessive drinking or gambling
  - 56 City where you won't find the El Greco Museum
  - 60 Neck and neck
  - 61 Cousin of "Kapow!"
  - 62 Refrigerator component
  - 63 Cincinnati squad
  - 64 "Well, that was stupid of me!"
  - 65 Commuter boat

#### DOWN

- 1 Owner of the first bed that Goldilocks tested
- 2 Tehran's land
- 3 "Here comes Poindexter!"
- 4 Prefix with lateral or cellular
- 5 Easter-related
- 6 "Let me rephrase that ..."
- 7 Receipt line just above the total
- 8 Org. that runs Windy City trains
- 9 Fading stars
- 10 Kind of goat that's the source of mohair
- 11 Not upstanding, in either sense of the word
- 12 20-ounce size at Starbucks
- 13 Confounded
- 18 Bit of attire you might learn how to put on while using a mirror

#### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

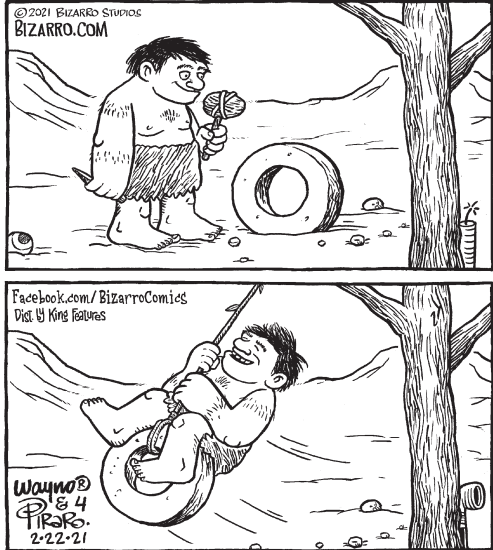


PUZZLE BY JEFF STILLMAN

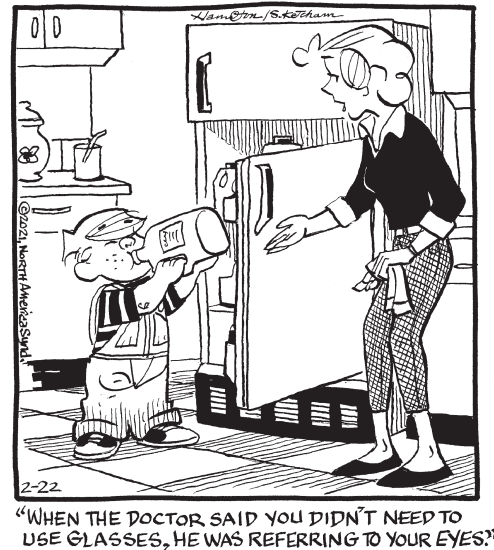
- 23 Valentine's Day flower
- 25 I.R.S. agent, quaintly
- 26 More than a couple
- 27 Part of a golf club
- 28 Pro or con, in a debate
- 29 Dutch cheese
- 33 All riled up
- 34 Curly-leafed cabbage
- 35 Online market for craftspeople
- 37 What follows the initial part of a master plan
- 38 Repeated bit in jazz
- 39 Neuter, as a horse
- 41 Small, brown bird
- 42 Join in couples
- 43 1986 sci-fi sequel set in deep space
- 44 Venerated symbols
- 46 "Not a chance!"
- 47 Still surviving
- 48 Walked nervously back and forth
- 49 Far out
- 53 Designer Christian
- 54 \_\_\_ Pictures, one of Hollywood's Big Five studios
- 57 Cry of surprise
- 58 Drink like a cat
- 59 Bauxite, e.g.

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).

#### BIZARRO



#### DENNIS THE MENACE



#### HERMAN



#### JUMBLE

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

WOLNC  
DUEFG  
MMEBLU  
IAGZZ

Print the answer here: \_\_\_\_\_

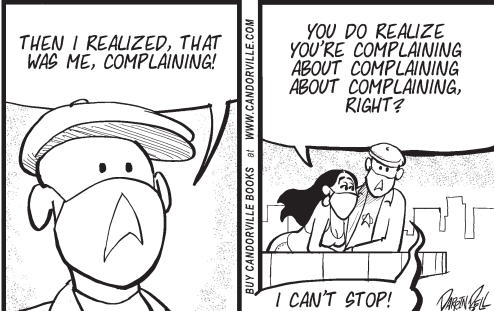
(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: NAVAL LIVID GATHER ROTATE  
Answer: When his sister took his baseball glove without permission, he asked her to — HAND IT OVER

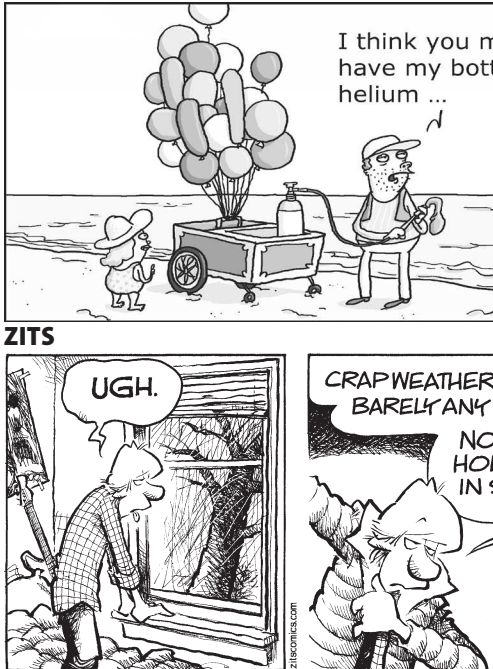
#### CANDORVILLE



#### WUMO



#### ZITS



## Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 Hand-dyeing method
  - 6 Alaskan malamute team's burden
  - 10 \_\_\_ Field: Mets' home
  - 14 Lose strength
  - 15 Attire for Caesar
  - 16 Closely related
  - 17 "Really!"
  - 19 Pinball flub
  - 20 Metal-shaping tool
  - 21 Defame verbally
  - 23 Fifth Avenue retailer
  - 25 Final word
  - 26 Even though
  - 30 Low-cost and inferior
  - 33 Early synthetic fiber
  - 34 Pinch, as piecrust
  - 35 D.C.'s nation
  - 38 Kilt-wearing family
  - 39 Hotel visitor
  - 40 Soon, to a bard
  - 41 Rogue computer in "2001"
  - 42 Uses a fireplace tool
  - 43 Sci-fi robot
  - 44 Really rich
  - 46 With dexterity
  - 47 Davis Jr. of the Rat Pack
  - 49 Pig's meal
  - 51 Source of maple syrup
  - 54 One of 12 at the Last Supper
  - 59 Straight from the mouth
  - 60 "Really!"
  - 62 Subside
  - 63 Cleveland's lake
  - 64 Carried in a bag
  - 65 The "S" in CBS: Abbr.
  - 66 Gets hitched
  - 67 Reaches across
- DOWN**
- 3 "Gone With the Wind" estate
  - 4 Checklist detail
  - 5 Represses, as emotions
  - 6 Storied baby-bringing bird
  - 7 Gehrig in Cooperstown
  - 8 Dairy case dozen
  - 9 Roald who created Willy Wonka
  - 10 Bit of shuteye
  - 11 "Really!"
  - 12 Scrabble pieces
  - 13 Emcee's lead-in
  - 18 In apple-pie order
  - 22 "Hurry!" on a memo
  - 24 Windbags' speeches
  - 26 One of two in McDonald's "M"
  - 27 In \_\_\_ land: spaced-out
  - 28 "Really!"
  - 29 A billion years, in geology
  - 31 Tire leak sound
  - 32 911 responder: Abbr.
  - 34 Pickled veggie
  - 36 Gardener's bagful
  - 37 Warhol of pop art
  - 39 Thor or Zeus
  - 40 Comics bark
  - 42 Forks over
  - 43 Kicks out of the country
  - 45 Brunch fare made with 8-Down
  - 46 Dimwit
  - 47 Stashes in a hold
  - 48 Assortment
  - 50 Shoe strings
  - 52 Not very many
  - 53 Skin opening
  - 55 Word on an octagonal sign
  - 56 Brit's goodbye
  - 57 Legal claim on property
  - 58 Comes to a halt
  - 61 Get \_\_\_ of: dump

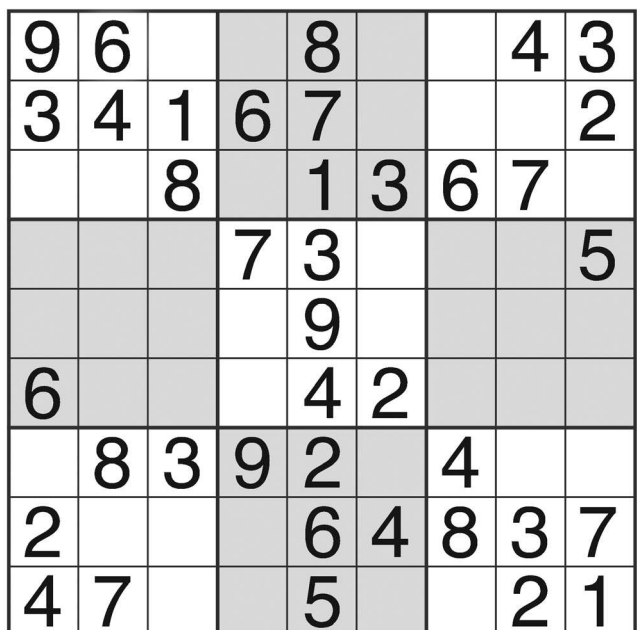
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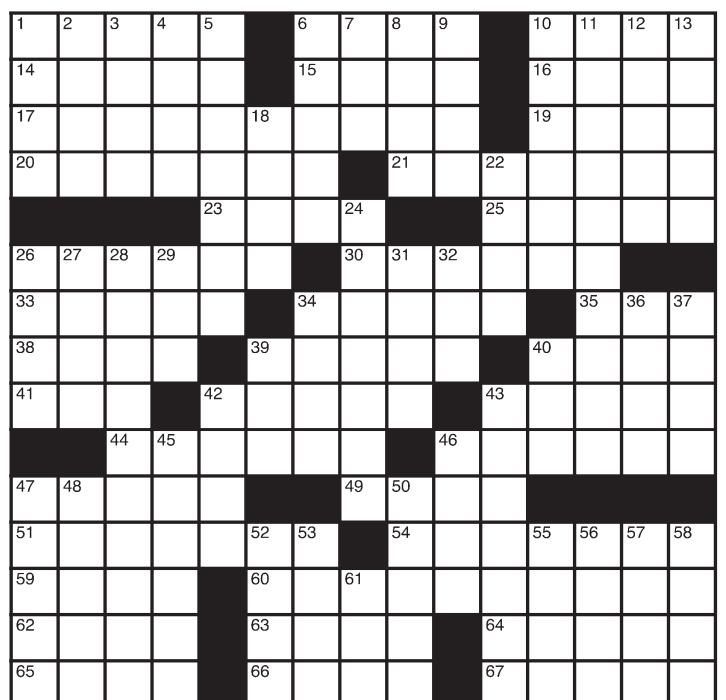
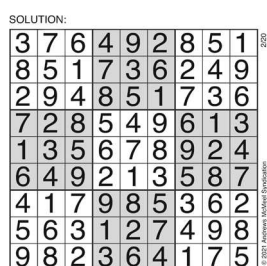
02/22/21

## SUDOKU

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



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆



By Fred Piscop  
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