

Wednesday, February 24, 2021

Daily Bridge Club

What's the difference?

By FRANK STEWART
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To tell a plumber from a chemist, ask them to pronounce "unionized." An expert and an inexperienced player differ in that the expert takes nothing for granted: He allows for bad breaks.

At six hearts, South drew trumps, took the A-K of spades and ruffed his last spade in dummy. When dummy next led a diamond, East played low, reasoning that South would have led toward the king if he had a diamond.

Declarer ruffed, cashed two more trumps for exercise and took the A-K of clubs. East's discard doomed the slam.

NORMAL BREAK

South hoped for a normal 3-2 club break but should have wondered how to succeed if clubs broke 4-1. After he wins the first trump with dummy's eight, he can ruff a diamond, take the top spades, ruff a spade and ruff a diamond.

South then cashes the A-K of clubs. When East shows out, South leads a trump to dummy and returns the king of diamonds. When East's ace covers, South discards a club: a loser on a loser. East must concede a ruff-suff.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ J 9 7 4 2 ♥ 7
♦ A J 9 8 6 2 ♣ J. Your partner opens one heart, you respond one spade and he rebids two hearts. What do

you say?
ANSWER: The warning flags are up. Partner has at least six hearts but minimum values. Don't fight a misfit. Pass. At two hearts, you may achieve a plus score or a small minus, but if you bid again, you are begging for trouble. (It could have been worse; partner might have bid two clubs.)

South dealer
E-W vulnerable

NORTH

♠ 8 5
♥ Q 8 4 3
♦ K 5 4
♣ 7 5 4 3

WEST

♠ Q 10 3
♥ 5 2
♦ Q 10 7 3
♣ Q 10 9 6

EAST

♠ J 9 7 4 2
♥ 7
♦ A J 9 8 6 2
♣ J

SOUTH

♠ A K 6
♥ A K J 10 9 6
♦ None
♣ A K 8 2

South	West	North	East
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♥	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

Opening lead — ♥ 2

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SEEKING A FRIENDLY DUPLICATE BRIDGE?

Find five games weekly online at bendbridge.org

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0120

ACROSS

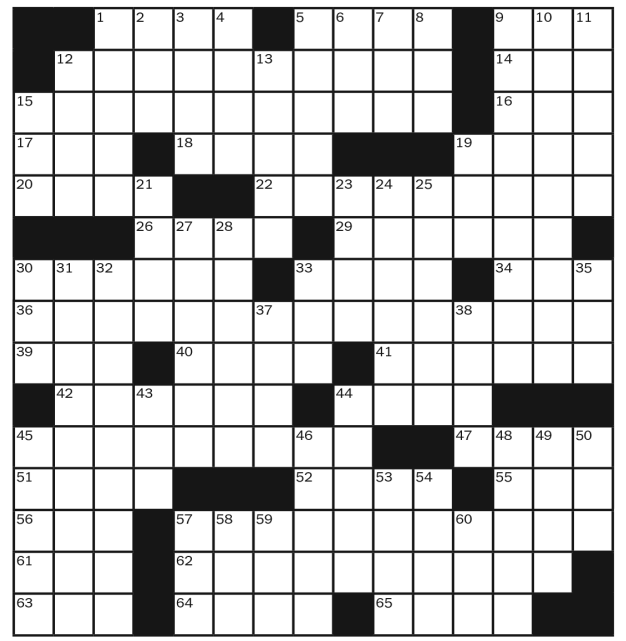
- 1 "God is the perfect ___": Robert Browning
- 5 Hormel product
- 9 "Avatar" f/x, e.g.
- 12 Subjects of some insurance company reports
- 14 An oil, maybe
- 15 Sharing thoughts like a Vulcan [Detroit, Fargo]
- 16 Brillo rival
- 17 Wise alternative
- 18 What the nose knows
- 19 Little matter
- 20 "Iron Lady" of Israeli politics
- 22 Classic of daytime TV first aired in 1962 [Atlanta, Bangor]
- 26 Germany's von Bismarck
- 29 ___ Belt (part of a constellation)
- 30 Certain ant

- 33 Lie in the past?
- 34 Health care hero, for short
- 36 Red, white and blue land ... or what 15-, 22-, 45- and 57-Across feature?
- 39 "Shark Tank" network
- 40 Berry that looks like a blueberry
- 41 Aircraft company headquartered in Kansas
- 42 Emmy winner Carl or Rob
- 44 Pop
- 45 Arthritis symptom [Altoona, South Bend]
- 47 Peter or Paul, but not Mary
- 51 Off-road four-wheelers, for short
- 52 Pilfer, to Brits

- 55 Wrinkly-faced dog
- 56 ___-Town (Midwest hub)
- 57 Sommelier's suggestion [Oshkosh, Omaha]
- 61 He's a doll
- 62 Kind of milk
- 63 End of many an address
- 64 Granny, e.g.
- 65 Isle of ___

DOWN

- 1 Kind of scheme
- 2 Bygone
- 3 Muppet who once helped Emeril on "Emeril Live"
- 4 One up, for example
- 5 Libya's Gulf of ___
- 6 Taro dish
- 7 She's a doll
- 8 Only ingredient in Accent, in brief
- 9 They might click on a dance floor
- 10 Some bachelor party attendees
- 11 Self proclamation?
- 12 Mention
- 13 It helps you see details
- 15 Shh ... it's the word!
- 19 Way back when
- 21 Digital media player since 2008



PUZZLE BY NATAN LAST, ANDY KRAVIS AND THE J.A.S.A. CROSSWORD CLASS

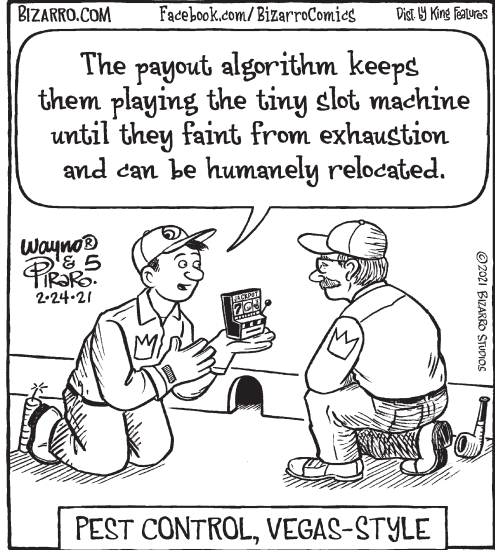
- 23 ___ Hall ("The Wind in the Willows" residence)
- 24 Brand name derived from the phrase "crystallized cottonseed oil"
- 25 Gave an inkling
- 27 Leaseholder, e.g.
- 28 Muscle controlled by the radial nerve, informally
- 30 Sports grp. founded by Billie Jean King
- 31 "No, you can't be serious!"
- 32 Not serving
- 33 Hawaiian ring
- 35 Grp. of inspectors
- 37 Seat of ancient Irish kings
- 38 "Hurry!"
- 43 ___ and outs
- 44 Wading bird with a long, slender bill
- 45 King of Pop, in tabloids
- 46 Ham-handed
- 48 Offer one's two cents
- 49 Get rid of the ball, in a way
- 50 One might be deviled
- 53 Mustang and Pinto, for two
- 54 Rockette's move
- 57 Cooking utensil
- 58 Stop on the road
- 59 ___-Latin
- 60 Spanish king

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ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



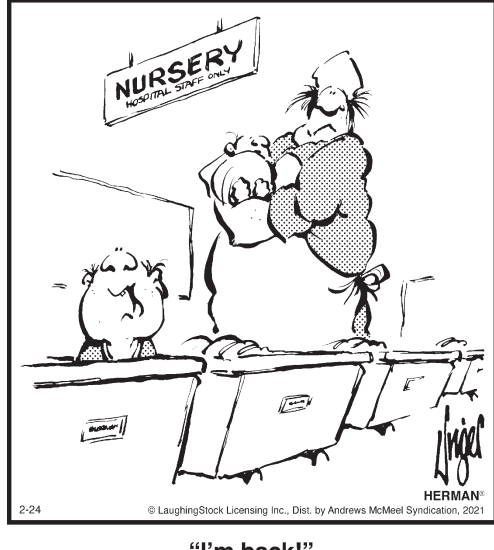
BIZARRO



DENNIS THE MENACE



HERMAN



JUMBLE

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

ATEML
NEULG
CTMIOS
ABNERR

WHEN THE T, V, X AND L WENT FOR A HIKE TOGETHER, THEY WERE ...

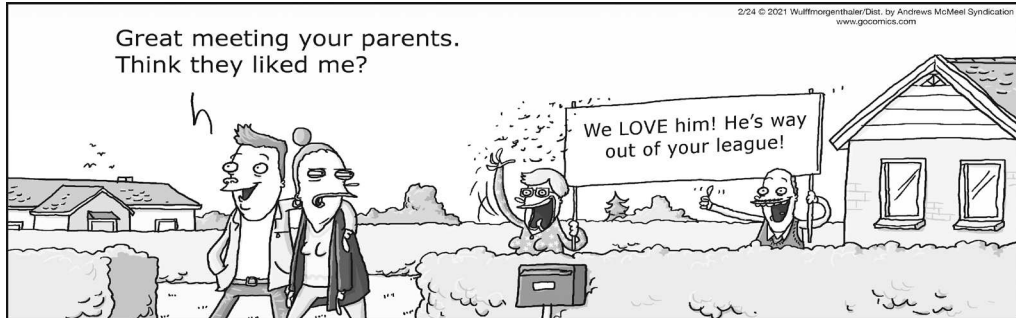
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answers tomorrow!

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

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

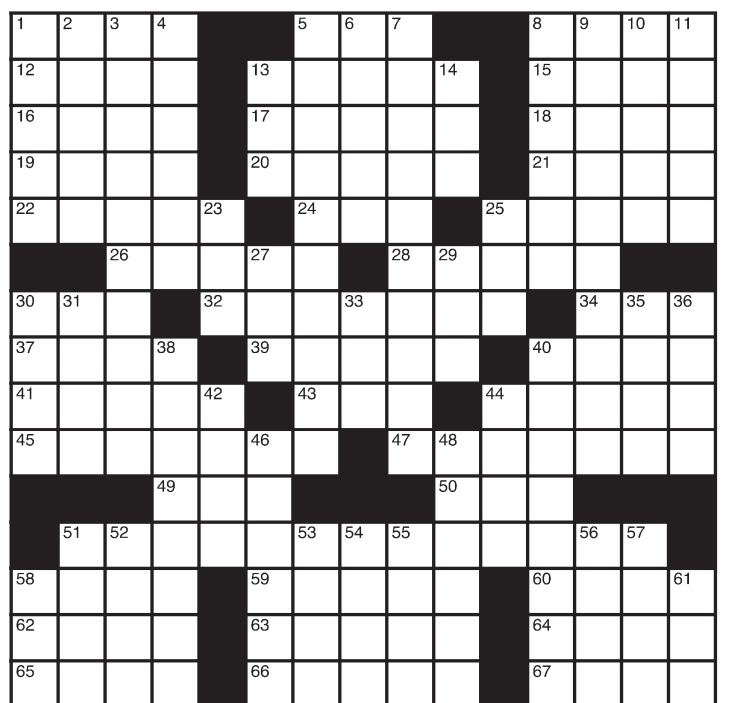
- ACROSS
- 1 It may break and crash
- 5 It has an eye on TV
- 8 Slightly open
- 12 Sea that's a victim of irrigation projects
- 13 Water park feature
- 15 Heavyweight fight?
- 16 Capital founded by Pizarro
- 17 They may draft briefs
- 18 Saloon door's lack
- 19 Civil War topper
- 20 Tattoo joint?
- 21 Folklore monster
- 22 Move furtively
- 24 "Breaking Bad" org.
- 25 Verne who created Nemo
- 26 Dodger rival of shortstop Rizzuto
- 28 Bucket of bolts
- 30 "Evita" narrator
- 32 Gummy bear ingredient
- 34 YouTube clip, for short
- 37 Prefix with call
- 39 Meek
- 40 Tubes on the table
- 41 Sonicare rival
- 43 Get into a stew?
- 44 One who digs hard rock
- 45 Wedding reception hiree
- 47 Pressing
- 49 Catch a bug, say
- 50 Energy unit
- 51 Loitering ... or how 3-, 5-, 7- and 9-Down might be seen?
- 58 Magic prop
- 59 Tech company that became a verb
- 60 Source
- 62 Harper's Bazaar designer
- 63 Absurd
- 64 Swear to be true
- 65 Tap serving
- 66 California's Point ___ National Seashore
- 67 Cook Islands export

- DOWN
- 1 Constitutional events
- 2 Disney mermaid
- 3 Blood-drinking mammal
- 4 "Seinfeld" regular
- 5 High light
- 6 Delta of "Designing Women"
- 7 Spelunking sight
- 8 Try to date
- 9 Support for Tarzan
- 10 Love, to Luigi
- 11 Judicial attire
- 13 One working on bks.
- 14 Linguistic suffix
- 23 It may be tapped
- 25 Fifth of 12, alphabetically: Abbr.
- 27 Place for shooting stars?
- 29 Free (of)
- 30 Shoe that's full of holes
- 31 Dance that may involve a chair
- 33 Reddit Q&A session
- 35 Cal.-to-Fla. highway
- 36 Gossip
- 38 Poisonous flowering shrub
- 40 Terraced structure of ancient Mesopotamia
- 42 Naval lockup
- 44 Surrealist Joan
- 46 Magical potion
- 48 Persian king
- 51 "Trigger" Bugs Bunny cartoon
- 52 Stud fee, maybe
- 53 Hawaiian goose
- 54 Anatomy book author Henry
- 55 Five-star
- 56 Smoked salmon
- 57 Cuckoo clock feature
- 58 Baseball glove part
- 61 Vegas snake eyes

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:



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By Bryant White
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