

Saturday, February 27, 2021

# Daily Bridge Club

## Simple Saturday

By **FRANK STEWART**  
Tribune Content Agency

“Simple Saturday” columns focus on improving basic technique and developing logical thinking.

Cy the Cynic says that anything free will have a secret, a defect, damage or an expiration date. When you are offered a “free finesse,” be wary.

In today’s deal, West led a spade against 3NT, and South happily played the ten from dummy, accepting the free finesse. He expected the ten to win, but when East’s queen covered, South had a damage-control issue: If he took the ace, he would lack an entry to his clubs.

### RECOVER

South tried to recover by letting East’s queen win. He won the next spade in dummy and led a club to his jack, but when West won, he led the ace and a second heart, and the contract expired; the defenders had five tricks.

South’s play was defective. Here’s the secret to making 3NT: South must put up dummy’s king on the first spade, then finesse in clubs. He is sure of five clubs, two spades and two diamonds, and East-West can take no more than four tricks.

### DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ 9 7 6 4 2 ♥ A 8 3  
♦ J 9 ♣ Q 6 3. Your partner opens one diamond, you respond one spade and he bids two clubs. What do you

say?  
**ANSWER:** Your partner has longer diamonds than clubs. Your correct call is two diamonds. If he has five diamonds and four clubs, he will usually do better at the 5-2 fit. Moreover, you give him another chance if he has a strong hand. Your hand is too weak to bid 2NT. A rebid of two spades would show a much better suit.

South dealer  
N-S vulnerable

**NORTH**  
♠ K J 10  
♥ J 10 9 5 4  
♦ A K 6 3  
♣ 5

**WEST**  
♠ 9 7 6 4 2  
♥ A 8 3  
♦ J 9  
♣ Q 6 3

**EAST**  
♠ Q 8  
♥ K Q 6 2  
♦ Q 10 8 7  
♣ 8 7 2

**SOUTH**  
♠ A 5 3  
♥ 7  
♦ 5 4 2  
♣ A K J 10 9 4

South	West	North	East
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 NT	All Pass

Opening lead — ♠ 4

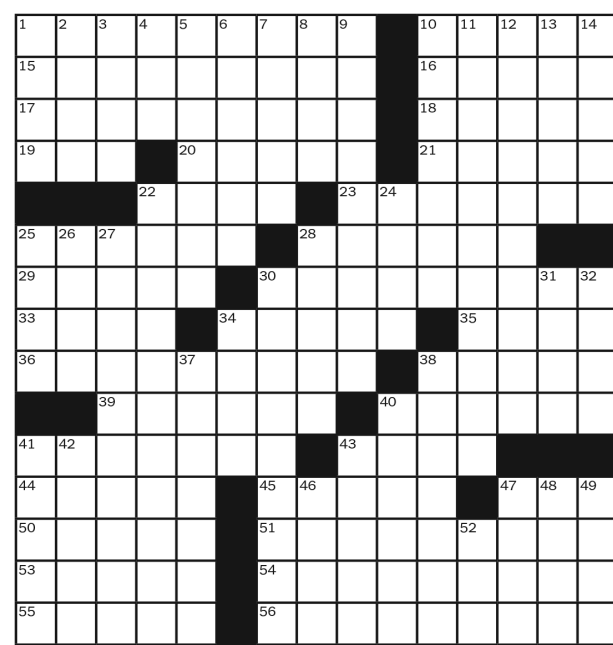
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# The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0123

- ACROSS**
- 1 Bands popular in the '70s
  - 10 Uses a letter opener on
  - 15 Later on, when appropriate
  - 16 “The Pirates of Penzance” ingénue
  - 17 Is resolute
  - 18 Grammy winner with the surname Adkins
  - 19 National \_\_\_ Hall of Fame, in Rochester, N.Y.
  - 20 Flip, say
  - 21 Esther of TV’s “Good Times”
  - 22 “Breaking Bad” protagonist
  - 23 Offer sheet?
  - 25 Refresh, in a way
  - 28 “Quit your bickering!”
  - 29 Left on deck
  - 30 Reached the point of no return?
  - 33 Like many Ariz. residents
  - 34 Fraught with risk
  - 35 Gubernatorial option
  - 36 Snow-capped peak of song
  - 38 Yellowstone traffic halter
  - 39 One going paperless in April, say
  - 40 Gags
  - 41 Once-common mall fixtures
  - 43 Nut chewed as a stimulant
  - 44 Harshly colorful
  - 45 Certain computer key
  - 47 Face-covering dance move
  - 50 Star N.F.L. receiver Beckham Jr.
  - 51 “Stoned Soul Picnic” songwriter
  - 53 Counterpart of butch
  - 54 Language in which “Hello, how are you?” is “Saluton, kiel vi fartas?”
  - 55 Its penultimate line is “Poems are made by fools like me”
  - 56 Franchise with the “Dominating the Deep” DVD set
- DOWN**
- 1 Sight in a produce aisle
  - 2 “I’m \_\_\_ you!”
  - 3 Danny \_\_\_, ventriloquist dummy for Jimmy Nelson
  - 4 Pressure over a debt
  - 5 Second or third version
  - 6 “Life \_\_\_” (2014 Roger Ebert documentary)
  - 7 Pester playfully
  - 8 Finance co. rebranded as Ally Financial
  - 9 Branch of mathematics that uses “U” and “∩”
  - 10 Brain
  - 11 Classic film that gave us the term “paparazzi”
  - 12 “Pretty sure”



PUZZLE BY DOUG PETERSON AND BRAD WILBER

### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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

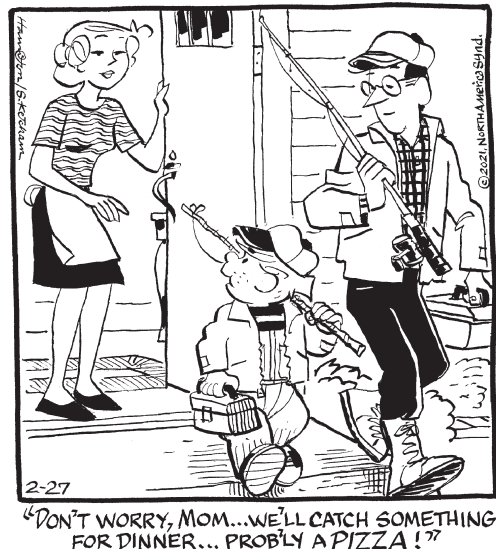
- 13 Restless movements, maybe
- 14 Unwelcome forecast
- 22 “I ... I can’t even”
- 24 Like presses
- 25 Certain paddy crop
- 26 Car with a lightning bolt logo
- 27 French dessert of soft custard
- 28 Patch growth
- 30 Things that generate a lot of cookie dough?
- 31 Early educator of George Orwell
- 32 Dijon denials
- 34 Course division
- 37 Some airplane seats
- 38 Fortification
- 40 Traditional wedding vow word
- 41 Up
- 42 Showing less refinement
- 43 Gene who’s considered “the founding father of the modern drum set”
- 46 Far from deliberate
- 47 10 micronewtons
- 48 Museo contents
- 49 Enter into a calendar
- 52 “Thanks anyway, partner”

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

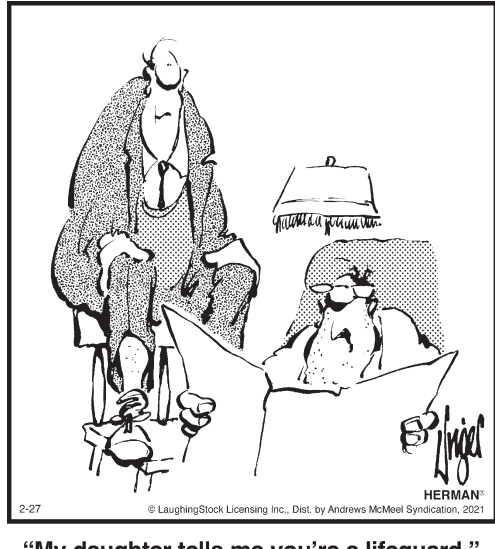
### BIZARRO



### DENNIS THE MENACE



### HERMAN



### JUMBLE

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

Y A U B O  
D Y U B D  
T E N N I Y  
L A R N Y E

THE

Get the new JUST JUMBLE app? Follow us on Twitter @nytimesjumble

Get out of here, and never come back!

Rock ON!

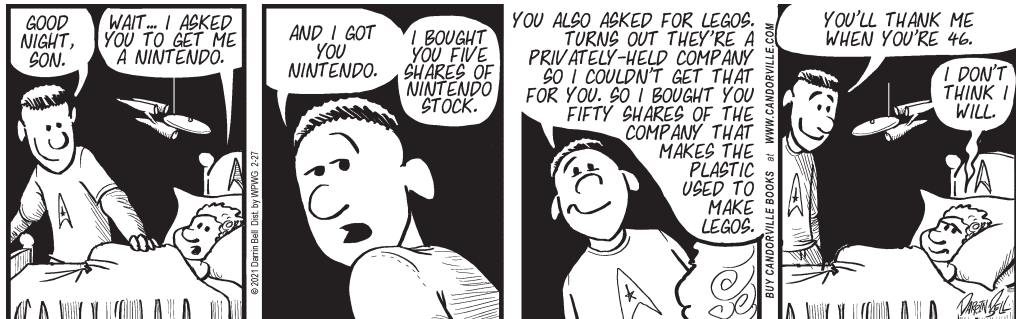
Are we being too loud?

AFTER THE ROCK GROUP TRASHED THEIR HOTEL SUITE, THE HOTEL MANAGER

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

Yesterday's Jumbles: PENNY ENACT STANZA MODIFY  
Answer: For the student doing homework, looking up the definition of “finale” was a — MEANS TO AN END

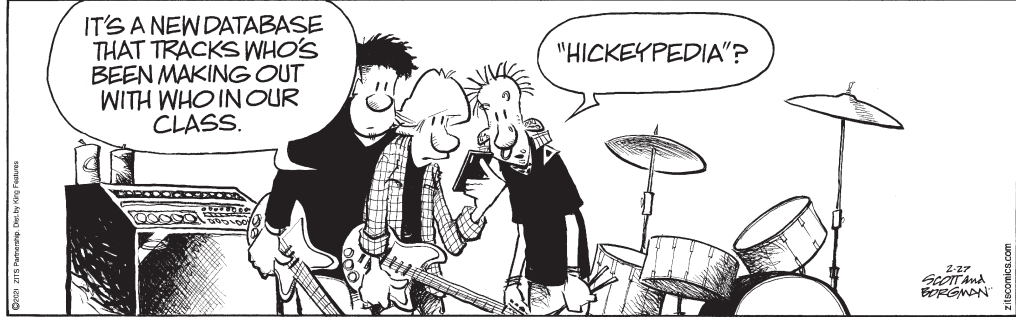
### CANDORVILLE



### 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

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

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

## Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

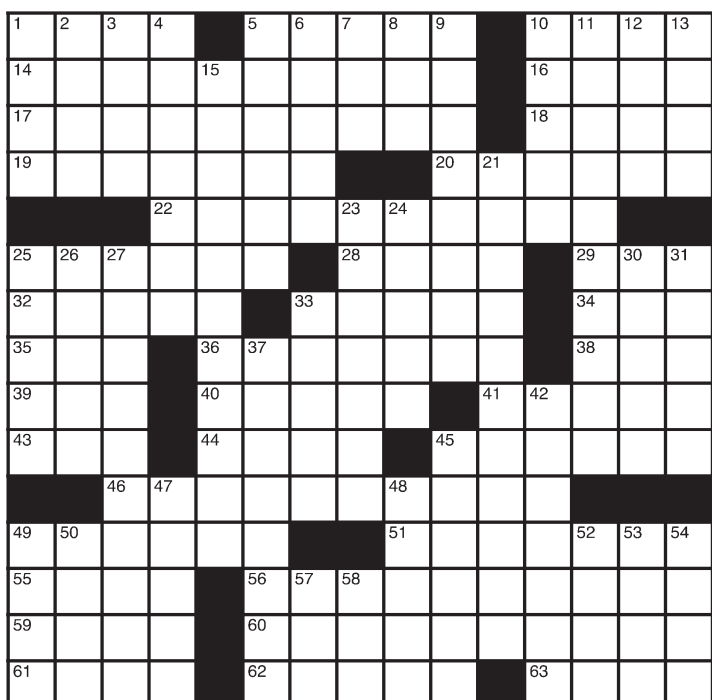
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 From \_\_\_: faintly
  - 5 Demanding quality
  - 10 Yamaha's Grizzly and Kodiak, briefly
  - 14 Francis used a Jeep Wrangler as one in 2015
  - 16 Creep up on
  - 17 Distortion for a cause
  - 18 “Santa Claus and His Works” artist, 1866
  - 19 Cloud-based access provider?
  - 20 Silver Spring, Md., is part of it
  - 22 Places to learn perspective
  - 25 “Given what we know ...”
  - 28 Likely to carry
  - 29 Sanctions
  - 32 Its co-founder said, “I do get disappointed that so many members spend so much time solving puzzles”
  - 33 French toast word
  - 34 Dandy
  - 35 Irregular, as a job
  - 36 Most provocative
  - 38 Unsettle
  - 39 Backpacker's chain
  - 40 Bucks
  - 41 Provençal sauce
  - 43 Often eponymous period
  - 44 Engage
  - 45 Feign interest in
  - 46 Pick-up artists?
  - 49 Dish from Valencian for “frying pan”
  - 51 To whom Brando said, “I coulda been a contender”
  - 55 Longtime morning host
  - 56 One of several coming out together
  - 59 Fix, in a way
  - 60 Arch supports
  - 61 Clip
  - 62 Gets in the game
  - 63 Sprawling
  - 64 Cell lineup
  - 65 Stronghold
  - 66 Per
  - 67 Wins again
  - 68 Writer's resource memoir
  - 69 Derby dads
  - 70 Thrill
  - 71 The Mahabharata, e.g.
  - 72 Billabong Zoo resident
  - 73 Sail-extending pole
  - 74 Red Baron attire, Snoopy-style
  - 75 Carrier to Malta
  - 76 1994 sci-fi
  - 77 Writer's resource memoir
  - 78 Derby dads
  - 79 Thrill
  - 80 Cosmetic counter name
  - 81 Make ready
  - 82 Musical with the song “Another Pyramid”
  - 83 Bash
  - 84 Seine summers
  - 85 Catch one's breath
  - 86 Overnight spot
  - 87 March Madness network

### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

02/27/21



By Matthew Sewell  
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