

Wednesday, March 3, 2021

### Daily Bridge Club

## Repeatable errors

By FRANK STEWART  
Tribune Content Agency

"My partner never makes the same mistake twice," a club player griped to me. "He makes it a half-dozen times — just to be sure, I guess."  
I heard that as declarer at four hearts, the complainant's partner took the ace of spades and then the A-K of trumps. When West threw a spade, declarer shifted to clubs: He took the A-K and led a third club.  
Alas, East ruffed and led a spade, and West won and led a fourth club. East won a second trump trick, overruffing dummy, and also got a diamond. Down one.

two clubs. What do you say?  
**ANSWER:** With a weaker hand — J 9, 8 6 2, 9 8 5 4 2, A 5 3 — it might be right to pass and not give partner another chance to bid and maybe get too high. But here, with two useful honors, I would be willing to issue a "false preference" to two spades. If partner has five spades and four clubs, he will usually do better at a spade contract.  
South dealer  
N-S vulnerable

#### HASTE

South made a mistake that I see players make more than once: He played hastily to Trick One. South may not foresee exactly what may happen, but he should routinely let West's king of spades win. (To take the ace and return a spade might do.)  
South wins the next spade and takes the A-K of trumps. He then attacks the clubs as before. East can't gain by ruffing the third club since West has no entry to give a second ruff. If East discards, South wins and ruffs his last club in dummy, losing only three tricks in all.

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

**WEST**  
♠ K Q 10 2  
♥ 7  
♦ Q 10 7 3  
♣ J 9 8 6

**EAST**  
♠ J 7 5 4 3  
♥ J 10 9 5  
♦ K J  
♣ 10 7

**SOUTH**  
♠ 8 6  
♥ A K Q 4 3  
♦ A 6  
♣ A Q 4 2

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

#### DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ A 9 ♥ 8 6 2 ♦ 9 8 5 4 2 ♣ K 5 3. Your partner opens one spade, you respond INT and he bids

Opening lead — ♠ K

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#### SEEKING A FRIENDLY DUPLICATE BRIDGE?

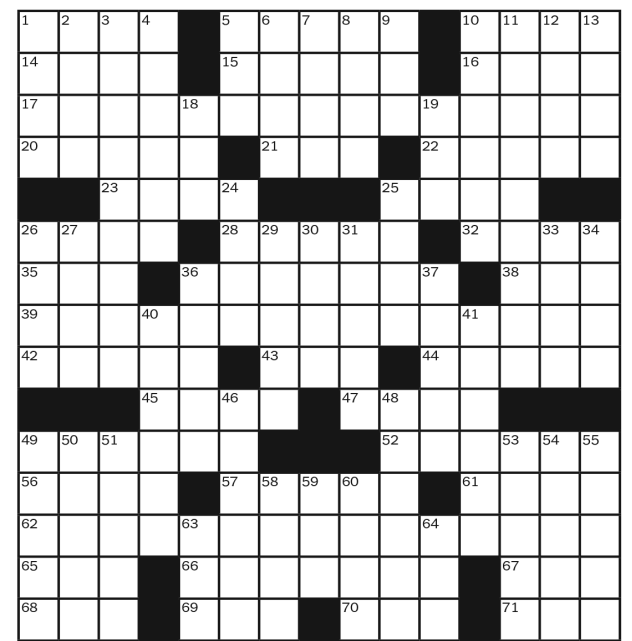
Find five games weekly online at [bendbridge.org](http://bendbridge.org)

## The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0127

- ACROSS**
- California
  - Frequent sights in Road Runner cartoons
  - Attempt
  - Vegetarian substitute for gelatin
  - "Silence is the most perfect expression of ..." (line in a Shaw play)
  - Philosopher David
  - Despicable ... or where this answer goes?
  - Paradises
  - Output of Santa's workshop
  - Retort to 4-Down
  - Dandies
  - Moving around very nicely, thank you
  - Nonstop joker
  - Midday break
  - Merit badge holder
  - Nearly forever
  - What to expect between June and September in India
  - What's what, in Italy
  - Sick ... or where this answer goes?
  - "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord ...," e.g.
  - "Diamonds"
  - Habitat for bitterns and herons
  - \_\_\_ walk
  - University whose name is also a food
  - Levels
  - Knuckleheaded act?
  - Is indebted to
  - Side to be considered
- DOWN**
- Hon
  - Like sharp cheddar
  - Longtime actress co-starring in Netflix's "Grace and Frankie"
  - Schoolyard denial
  - Winter hrs. in the Midwest
  - Fünf + drei
  - 2017 Pixar hit
  - Where Paris took Helen
  - Holiday \_\_\_
  - Heavy scissors
  - Possible result of overeating, informally
  - Roadies' loads
  - Texas politico O'Rourke
  - "Poor venomous fool," to Cleopatra



PUZZLE BY MIKE KNOBLER

- A hot one is timely
- Place for a coin
- Old woman's home, in a children's rhyme
- Enlist again
- Na+ and Cl-
- Square
- Tiny fraction of a min.
- Shrink in fear
- What dogs do in the spring
- One of a pair of towel markings
- Citi Field mascot
- Drug trafficker, informally
- City across the Rio Grande from Juárez
- Drive ... or drive mad?
- Drifted downriver, say
- Not off key
- Not drunk
- Quaint contraction
- "Stop worrying!"
- Play defense against
- Run up, as charges
- Barely make it
- Cries of discovery
- Animated frame
- Biblical twin
- Indianapolis-to-St. Louis dir.
- Female Jedi in "Star Wars"

#### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



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.

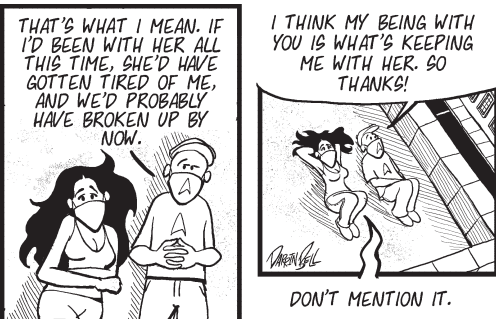
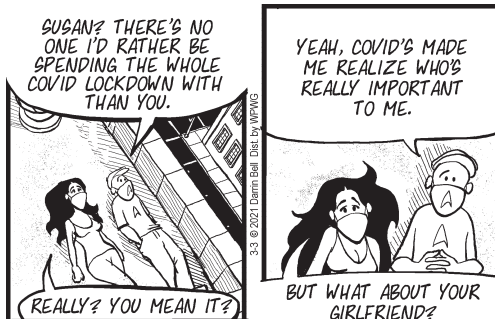
WINGE  
GEEMR  
EFYLER  
SBDIEE

Get the free JUMBLE app! Follow us on Twitter @nytimes  
We know what we want from a practice. We can be that!  
I know we'll be successful!  
Let's do this!  
We can do this!  
THE LAWYERS WHO HAD FAITH THAT TEAMING UP WOULD RESULT IN SUCCESS WERE ---  
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: WHOSE FLIRT MARLIN GOBLET  
Answer: After the hunting dog wandered into the bog in search of birds, he was — SMELLING "FOWL"

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

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

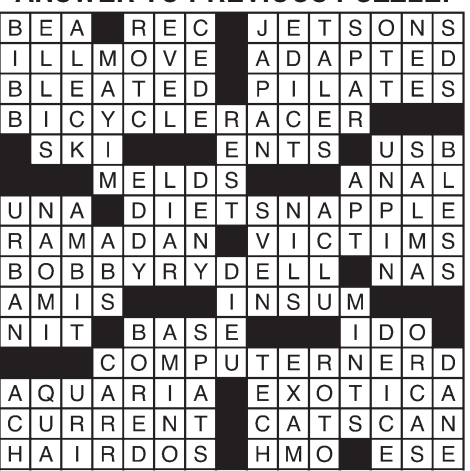
DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

### Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

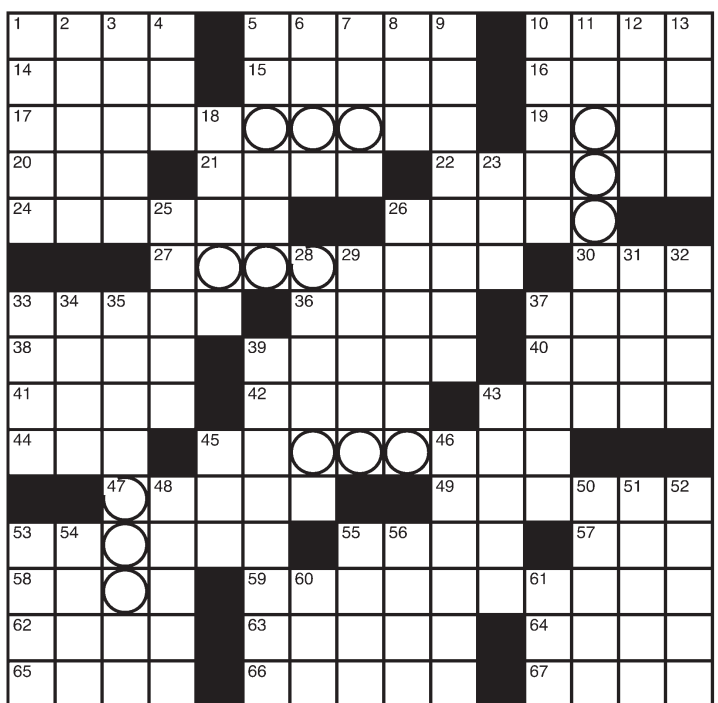
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS**
- Aussie birds with drumbeat-like mating calls
  - Maestro Zubin
  - Get in a row
  - Regarding
  - Lucy Lawless title role
  - "Take a look"
  - Hit the brakes
  - Once-common childhood ailment
  - Nomadic quarters
  - Giant whose #4 was retired
  - Rock's Pop
  - Figures of speech
  - Saffron-flavored Spanish dish
  - Embellish
  - Reporting live
  - The eastern half of a frozen food brand
  - Writers' workplaces
  - Move, in realty ads
  - Anjou, e.g.
  - 24-Across ingredient
  - Garson of "Mrs. Miniver"
  - Summit
  - A lot of time, in Spain
  - Wild party
  - Speculate
  - Corporate VIP
  - Hereditary information for a species
  - Having glass sections
  - Incan wool sources
  - Race with no real losers
  - Cruising the Arctic, say
  - Fish served in poke
  - Butter substitute
  - Five-pointed stars ... or, in two words, what the sets of circles represent?
  - Family nicknames
  - Tribal leader
  - Maine, to Macron
  - The Dead Sea, actually
  - Cordial dealings
  - "I did it!"
- DOWN**
- Many a bodyguard
  - Maestro Zubin
  - Make one out of many
  - fly: RBI producer
  - What separates the men from the boys?
  - Like the mind's "I"
  - Guessing game
  - Former Prizm maker
  - Living very close by
  - Big name in furs
  - Blended family relative
  - Vocal quality
  - Gets involved, with "in"
  - Potters' needs
  - Oscar-winning director Howard
  - YouTube clicks
  - Like Van Winkle, for 20 years
  - Trip to the market, say
  - "Still Me" memoirist
  - Water containers?
  - Greek war god
  - Storyed bloodsucker, for short
  - Mozart's "\_\_\_ Kleine Nachtmusik"
  - Somewhat revealing T-shirt option
  - Journalist Zahn
  - Pot pie veggie
  - Heights: Mideast region
  - Wildebeest
  - Cate with a falsely accused cow
  - Sprang up
  - Island near Sicily
  - Winning
  - Slangy sibling
  - Ump's call
  - Forearm bone
  - The Beatles' "\_\_\_ Love Her"
  - Editor's "Let it be"
  - Title tree in six horror films
  - Understand

#### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:



03/03/21



By Ed Sessa  
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03/03/21