

Tuesday, March 16, 2021

**Daily Bridge Club**

**Minnie the team player**

By FRANK STEWART  
Tribune Content Agency

"I found a way to deal with Minnie and her glasses," Cy the Cynic told me. "She's playing on my team!"  
Minnie Bottoms wears old bifocals that make her mix up kings and jacks, often to her opponents' dismay. Cy has been Minnie's chief victim.

Cy admitted that he misplayed today's slam in a team match. West led a trump (not best), and Cy drew trumps and took the A-K of hearts. When East showed out, the Cynic had no chance.

"West led a trump at the other table," Cy said. "There, South drew trumps and ducked a heart, so he had an extra entry to set up the hearts if they broke 4-1."

and your partner cue-bids two clubs. What do you say?

**ANSWER:** Partner's two clubs suggests heart support and a good hand. Your action now depends on your overcalling style. In mine, overcalls generally show opening values or more, so I would just bid two hearts. Many players would overcall with fewer values and would bid more.

North dealer  
N-S vulnerable

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

**SHIFT**

"Minnie was East. When she took the ten of hearts, she shifted to the KING of diamonds, no doubt thinking it was the jack, and down declarer went."

The slam was cold. South takes the ace of hearts at Trick Two, draws trumps and leads a second heart. If West plays low, dummy plays the nine. If instead West plays an honor, South takes the ace and returns the nine, pitching a minor-suit loser.

**WEST**  
♠ 10 6  
♥ Q J 7 6  
♦ J 7 5 2  
♣ Q 8 3

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

**SOUTH**  
♠ A K Q J 9 4  
♥ 5 2  
♦ Q 8  
♣ A J 7

|       |      |       |          |
|-------|------|-------|----------|
| North | East | South | West     |
| 1♥    | Pass | 2♠    | Pass     |
| 3♥    | Pass | 3♠    | Pass     |
| 4♠    | Pass | 6♠    | All Pass |

Opening lead — ♠ 10

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**DAILY QUESTION**

You hold: ♠ 7 3 ♥ A K 9 8 4 3  
♦ A 6 ♣ 10 4 2. Both sides vulnerable. The dealer, at your right, opens one club. You bid one heart.

**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. 0209

**ACROSS**

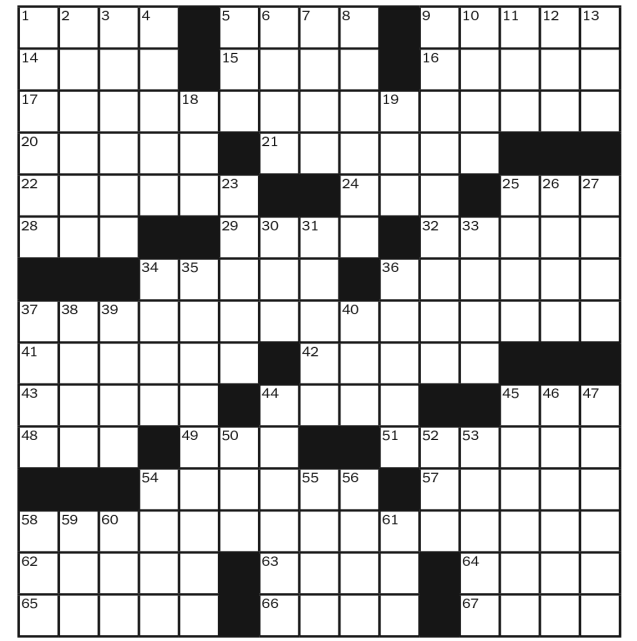
- 1 Upon
- 5 \_\_\_ of the Unknowns
- 9 Plain-speaking
- 14 Score for a bull's-eye in archery
- 15 Part of jeans that might be ripped
- 16 A couple of octaves, for most singers
- 17 Stay cool
- 20 What situations and needs do
- 21 Record holder
- 22 Supply for an indebted tattoo artist?
- 24 Early afternoon hour
- 25 Owns
- 28 \_\_\_-compliant (wheelchair-accessible, maybe)

- 29 Slays, in gang talk
- 32 No-goodnik
- 34 What a "swoooosh" sound may signal is on its way
- 36 "Think box"
- 37 Get ready for something amazing
- 41 Puts in order
- 42 Good news from one's employer
- 43 No-no
- 44 Is worth it
- 45 Spam caller, e.g.
- 48 Suffix with host
- 49 Philosopher \_\_\_-tzu
- 51 Nutritional drink brand
- 54 Referencing
- 57 Cuts back
- 58 Don't spend so much money

- 62 \_\_\_ Heep (rock band)
- 63 "\_\_\_ chic!"
- 64 Effortlessness
- 65 Doesn't follow to the letter, as rules
- 66 Peeved
- 67 Regretted

**DOWN**

- 1 Turkey's capital
- 2 Having multiple levels
- 3 New York tribe or city
- 4 Product once advertised with the slogan "The choice of a new generation"
- 5 Certain boxing win, in brief
- 6 Responsibility
- 7 Old World blackbird
- 8 Threatens persistently
- 9 Not serious, as a lawsuit
- 10 Numismatic classification
- 11 Member of a colonial army?
- 12 Greenpeace, for one, in brief
- 13 Understanding
- 18 What a "Y" with a pair of horizontal lines through it is the symbol for
- 19 Split, as logs
- 23 Some paradoxical questions



PUZZLE BY COLIN ERNST

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**



- 25 Grant for a filmmaker?
- 26 Home to more than 4.5 billion
- 27 On the way
- 30 In shape
- 31 Goddess of spring
- 33 People eater
- 34 Frozen waffle brand
- 35 Uprights at Stonehenge, e.g.
- 36 Creak or squeak
- 37 "\_\_\_ is too great a burden to bear": Martin Luther King Jr.
- 38 Expression of grief
- 39 Pen tips
- 40 "Whoopee!"
- 44 North, east, south and west
- 45 Government department
- 46 End of an ultimatum
- 47 Like students at semester's end
- 50 Ingested
- 52 Longtime home of Terry Gross
- 53 Cavalry weapon
- 54 Land south of Libya
- 55 Songwriter Laura
- 56 Ending with church or party
- 58 Clumsy boat
- 59 Indignation
- 60 Drinking game?
- 61 "It's no \_\_\_!"

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.

CEETJ  
LENTK  
SFIUNE  
OLGANO

Print your answer here: \_\_\_\_\_

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: OOMPH HOIST ONWARD MORTAL  
Answer: The cow decided to create her own clothing and was making — "MOO-MOOS"

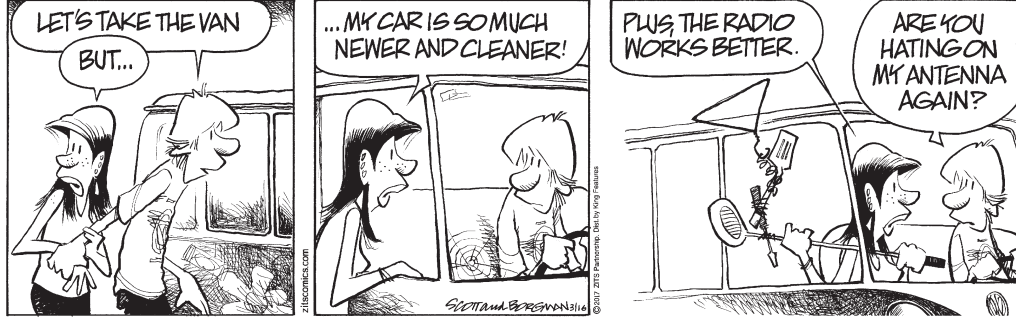
**CANDORVILLE**



**WUMO**



**ZITS**

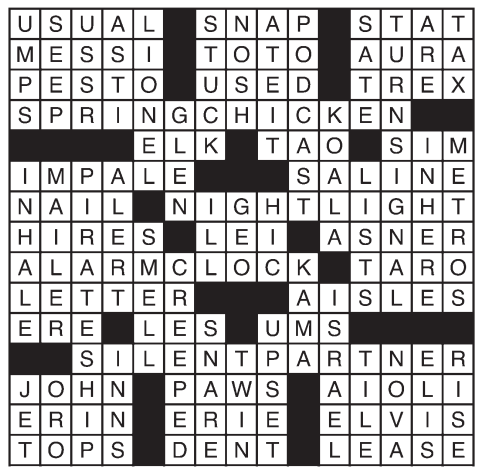


**Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle**

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 Promotes on TV, say
- 6 Elitist sort
- 10 Great Salt Lake state
- 14 Kayak kin
- 15 Skating medalist
- 16 Corn bread
- 17 \*Embezzled
- 19 Dirt road grooves
- 20 Arrange, as a shawl
- 21 Acts with passion
- 23 Starfish's five, usually
- 26 Call from the rear?
- 28 "Groovy!"
- 30 Mom-and-pop org.
- 31 Slunk
- 34 Forensic tech's tool
- 36 66-Down pro
- 38 Sea, in Spain
- 39 Result of too many six-packs?
- 41 Prestigious broadcasting award
- 44 Answer to "Who's hungry?"
- 45 Turndowns
- 47 Makes right
- 48 Messy roommates
- 51 Neath opposite
- 53 Military academy student
- 54 Decade in which many Gen Zers were born
- 57 Cincinnati MLB team
- 58 Snoopy is one
- 60 Poker-faced
- 62 Slips up
- 63 Fish dish garnish, or a hidden feature of the answers to starred clues
- 68 Tall hiking socks can protect against one
- 69 Qatari leader
- 70 Sickeningly sweet
- 71 Hurting after exercise
- 72 Tape type
- 73 Hardly in the dark
- DOWN**
- 1 Mac alternatives
- 2 Back muscle, briefly
- 3 Card game cry
- 4 "Well done" award
- 5 One having visions
- 6 Visit at the penthouse
- 7 Comedy special for which Hannah Gadsby won a 2019 Emmy
- 8 Mother lode stuff
- 9 Howled
- 10 Commotion
- 11 \*Everyone in Paris?
- 12 Pay to play
- 13 Company with toy trucks
- 18 Shakespeare's fairy queen
- 22 Word after hot or before drop
- 23 Egyptian god of the afterlife
- 24 Disclose
- 25 \*King or prince
- 27 Pack (down)
- 29 Texter's "Wow!"
- 32 Like an exaggerated résumé
- 33 Secret meetings
- 35 Groaner, maybe
- 37 Bubble \_\_\_
- 38 Taiwanese drink
- 40 Quick honk
- 42 "Better Call Saul" channel
- 43 Pastry with an ursine name
- 46 Earthquake-caused
- 49 Montana resort area
- 50 NBC skit show
- 52 "Are so!" or "Am not!"
- 55 Sought morays
- 56 Cain, to Eve
- 58 Alpha follower
- 59 Stonestreet of "Modern Family"
- 61 "Insecure" star
- 64 Australian avian
- 65 Brew initials
- 66 Life-saving proc.
- 67 Watch closely

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:**

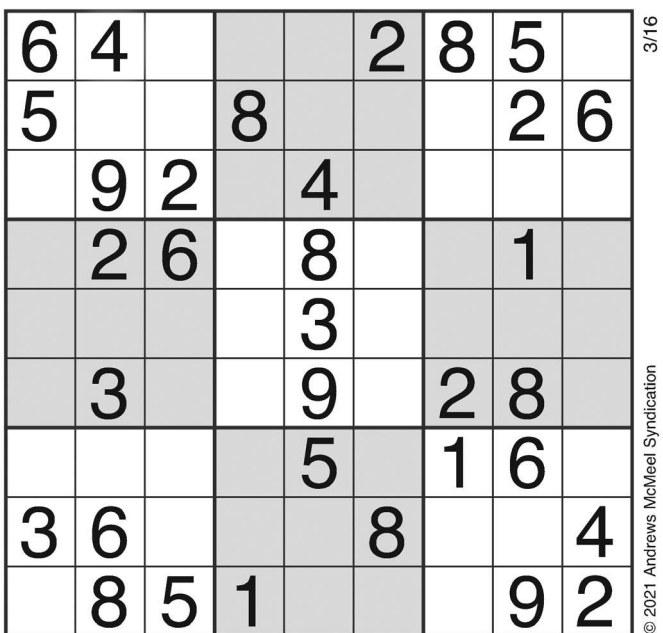
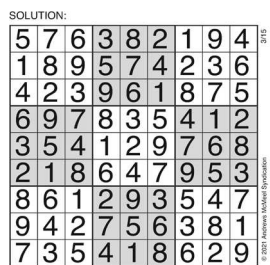


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**SUDOKU**

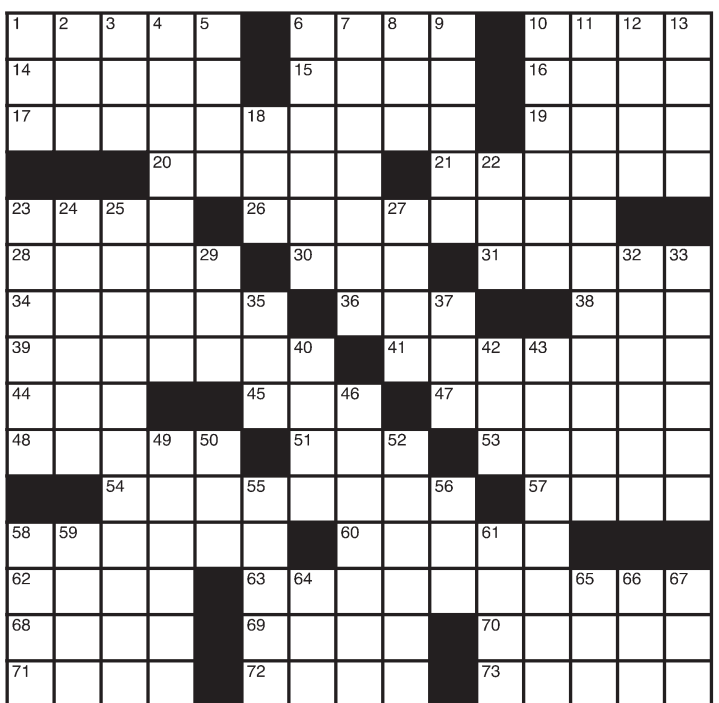
Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

**SOLUTION TO PREVIOUS SUDOKU**



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

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