

Saturday, March 27, 2021

**Daily Bridge Club**

**Simple Saturday**

By FRANK STEWART  
Tribune Content Agency

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

Cy the Cynic, a denizen of my bridge club, expects all his finesses to lose. As a confirmed cynic, Cy doesn't even assume that a finesse that happens to work once will do so twice.

You are declarer at today's 3NT. You win the diamond opening lead in dummy and lead the queen of hearts; deuce, six, four. If you continue with a heart to your ten, West produces the king and exits with a diamond. You can take three diamonds, the ace of hearts and the A-K of clubs, but East wins the third club and leads the queen of spades, and you lose the rest. Down one.

**TRUST**

Don't trust the defenders. After the queen of hearts wins, lead a club to your jack. Even if the finesse loses, you have nine tricks.

When the jack of clubs wins, cash the A-K, three diamonds and the ace of hearts. Exit with a heart, and West will have to win and give you the king of spades. That will teach him to try to fool you.

**DAILY QUESTION**

You hold: ♠ 5 4 3 ♥ Q J 5 3  
♦ A 4 2 ♣ 10 4 3. The dealer, at

your left, opens one diamond. Your partner doubles, you bid one heart and he raises to three hearts. What do you say?

**ANSWER:** It's easy to misjudge and pass, but your partner has been willing to undertake a nine-trick contract, and for all he knows, you have zilch. The key to these situations is to imagine how much worse your hand might be. Since you have an ace and four good hearts, bid four hearts.

South dealer  
N-S vulnerable

**NORTH**

♠ 5 4 3  
♥ Q J 5 3  
♦ A 4 2  
♣ 10 4 3

**WEST**

♠ A 9 8 7  
♥ K 9 4  
♦ 10 9 8 7  
♣ 5 2

**EAST**

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

**SOUTH**

♠ K 6  
♥ A 10 6  
♦ K Q J 5  
♣ A K J 6

South 2 NT West Pass North 3 NT East All Pass

Opening lead — ♦ 10

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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. 0220

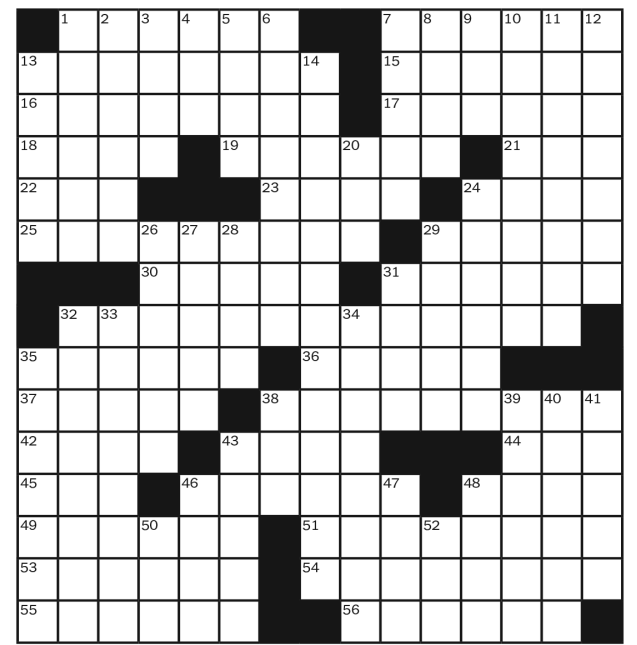
**ACROSS**

- 1 Requirement
- 7 Wage conflict, say
- 13 Things often hit during rush hour
- 15 "I Wish" rapper, 1995
- 16 Subj. of the 17th Amendment
- 17 Bit of inside info
- 18 Cold War missile type
- 19 Believer in the Horned God
- 21 Excellent
- 22 Campaign figure, informally
- 23 Front on the waterfront
- 24 Out of one's head, in slang
- 25 Sci-fi portals
- 29 Fairy tale villain
- 30 "... unless I'm mistaken"

- 31 Writers George and T. S.
- 32 "You have my vote!"
- 35 Jeering words after a prank
- 36 Clear
- 37 Things you can barely see at art galleries?
- 38 Time for an exhibition
- 42 Word derived from the Greek for "age"
- 43 Rafter neighbor
- 44 Org. with resources on smart growth
- 45 Fashion inits.
- 46 Do a favor
- 48 Reclined
- 49 Uses a stylus on a credit card reader, e.g.

**DOWN**

- 1 Supporting character?
- 2 \_\_\_ von der Leyen, first female head of the European Commission, who negotiated Brexit for the E.U.
- 3 Remove one's coat?
- 4 Wealth
- 5 It adds one point to a soccer team's standing in the English Premier League
- 6 Proceeding very, very quietly
- 7 "Poppycock!"
- 8 Singer whose name becomes a city if you add an "R" in the middle
- 9 As \_\_\_
- 10 Reaction to some P.D.A.
- 11 Port of SE Spain
- 12 Restaurant chain originally called Chicken on the Run



PUZZLE BY ALI GASCOIGNE

- 13 Borders
- 14 Protective suits?
- 20 Trig function
- 24 Sevastopol is its largest city
- 26 Humorist Leo who wrote "The Joys of Yiddish," 1968
- 27 Shades, as with a pencil
- 28 "The Queen's Gambit" actress \_\_\_ Taylor-Joy
- 29 Thick as thieves
- 31 Reigns, say
- 32 "Sure, it could be"
- 33 One might have a bunch of errands
- 34 Anticonsumerists aiming to help the environment
- 35 12 months from now
- 38 Homie
- 39 One doing some stitching
- 40 Methadone or oxycodone
- 41 Kind of state
- 43 Buddy of "Barnaby Jones"
- 46 "This one's \_\_\_"
- 47 "\_\_\_ Is Beta Than Evvah!" (1976 album)
- 48 Actress Petty
- 50 Make extremely upset
- 52 Card

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**

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

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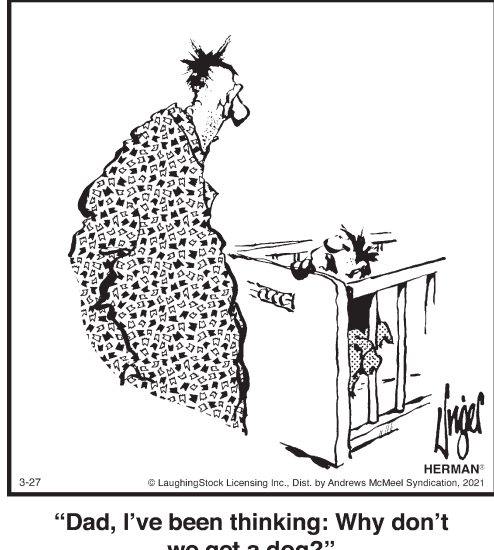
**BIZARRO**



**DENNIS THE MENACE**



**HERMAN**



**JUMBLE**

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

HTHCI  
INONO  
YPSLP  
TERARH

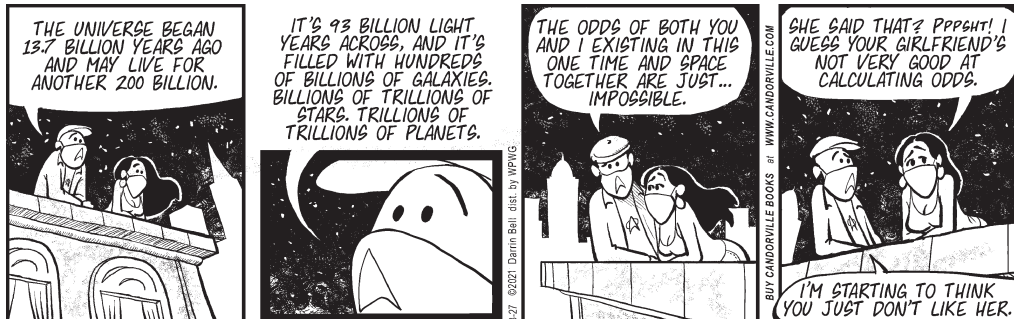
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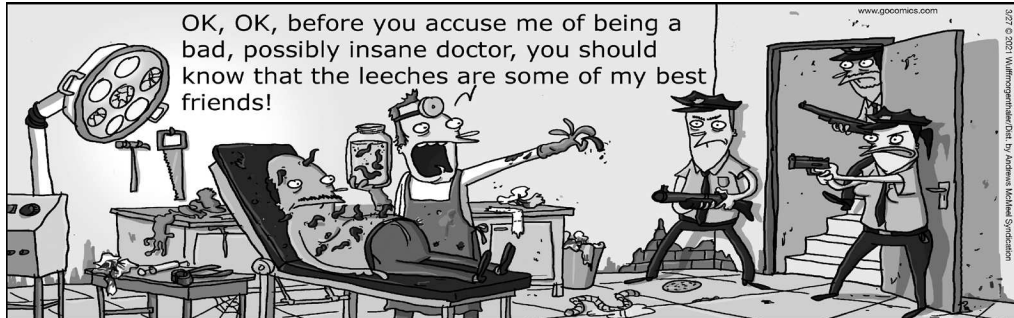
(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: DOGMA VISOR SEASON INVEST  
Answer: The car dealer just got the latest model, and people were taking test drives — IN DROVES

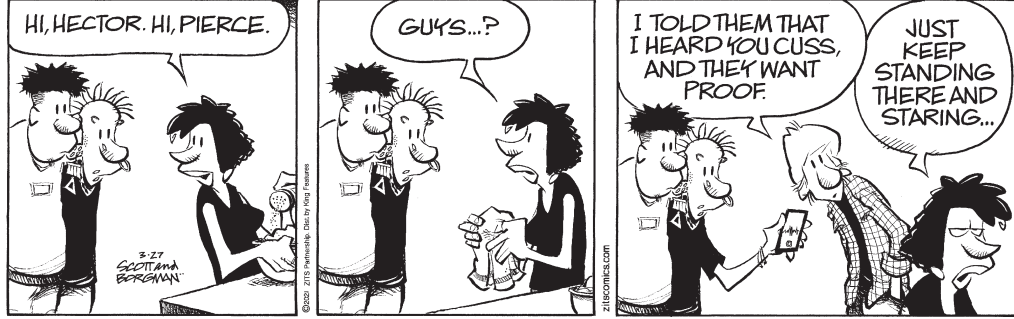
**CANDORVILLE**



**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**

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

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

**Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle**

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

**ACROSS**

- 1 Heard but not seen, as sound effects
- 10 Disconcerts
- 14 In a fog
- 15 Shore seen on TV
- 16 Tests
- 17 Film composer Morricone
- 18 \_\_\_Caps
- 19 Stand up
- 20 \_\_\_ Waters, most senior Black woman in Congress
- 21 Reached the nadir, with "out"
- 23 Waffle center?
- 24 \_\_\_ spot
- 26 Court figures
- 27 Bluffer's objective
- 28 Casual Fridays attire, perhaps
- 30 Account
- 31 \_\_\_ Valley: Tucson suburb
- 32 Begrudges
- 34 Breville product
- 36 "\_\_\_ luck?"
- 37 Five carats
- 39 Tswana for "fly"
- 40 Bridge action
- 41 Sights seen by seers, maybe
- 43 Throw
- 44 Doce meses
- 45 Valiant
- 47 Abstract
- 49 Plant with corms
- 50 Greek letter used in the Schrödinger equation
- 53 Put forward
- 54 Black Sabbath devotee, say
- 56 Hirsch of "Once Upon a Time in Hollywood"
- 57 Fair-haired neighbor
- 58 Estonian
- 59 Reels

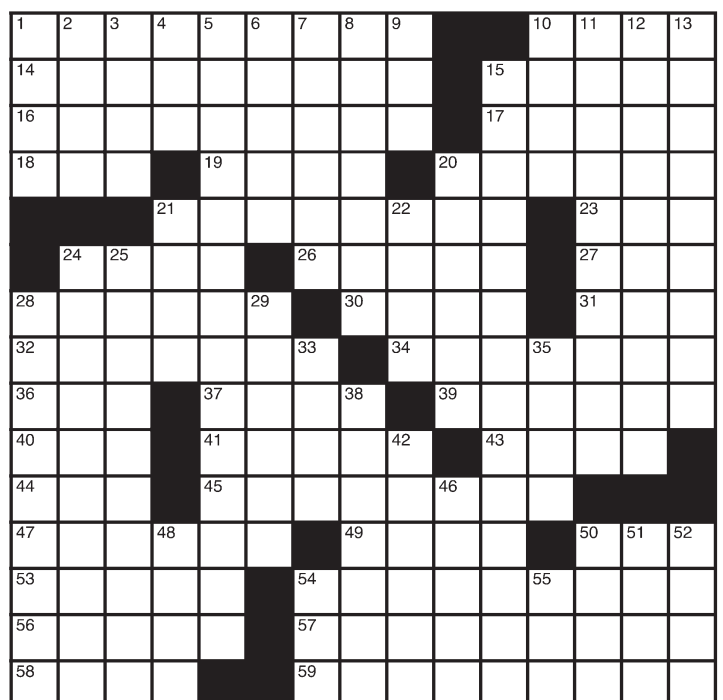
- 4 Busy pro around this time
- 5 "Seriously ..."
- 6 Distinction
- 7 Celebrates big-time
- 8 Let
- 9 They're seen in some wars
- 10 Spell
- 11 She plays Sheldon's grandma (Meemaw) on "Young Sheldon"
- 12 Much of Vancouver Island
- 13 Skechers milieu
- 15 The Israel Museum display
- 20 Wine denigrated in "Sideways"
- 21 Make madeleines, e.g.
- 22 Heart
- 24 Conformist's phrase
- 25 "Not too much"
- 28 Fourth-grade teacher in Springfield Elementary School

- 29 Automotive suspension components
- 33 First name in desserts
- 35 See 55-Down
- 38 Blue- or gray-furred cat
- 42 Wrap snugly
- 46 Small-muzzled horses
- 48 TD Garden NBAer
- 50 Four-time Gold Glove winner Tony
- 51 \_\_\_ City: Baghdad suburb
- 52 Ancient midpoint marker, more or less
- 54 Family figures
- 55 With 35-Down, precarious place

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:**

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

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By Craig Stowe  
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**DOWN**

- 1 Decides
- 2 Flowerless plant
- 3 Texas river named for its chilly waters