

Tuesday, April 6, 2021

Daily Bridge Club

Ups and downs

By FRANK STEWART
Tribune Content Agency

"I hear things at the observatory are looking up." — graffiti

Today's South picked up a 22-point hand and got to 3NT. When West led the deuce of clubs, South thought things were definitely looking up. East took the ace — declarer followed with the four — and led a low spade.

South took the ace and cashed the king of clubs, and matters began to go downhill when East threw a heart. South next took the ace of diamonds, overtook his queen with the king and cashed the jack, hoping for a 3-3 break. When East threw another heart, South led the ten of hearts from dummy. East grabbed his ace and led another spade, and with careful defense, South was doomed: He won eight tricks.

two clubs and you try two hearts. Partner then rebids three clubs. What do you say?

ANSWER: This problem is uneasy. You might make four hearts — partner might have three-card support — but game chances are uncertain at best. Pass. Incidentally, although a new-suit bid by responder is regarded as forcing, some pairs would treat your two hearts as not forcing.

South dealer
N-S vulnerable

NORTH
♠ 9 3
♥ 10 4
♦ K J 6 4 2
♣ 10 8 5 3

WEST
♠ Q 8 6
♥ 9 8
♦ 8 7 5 3
♣ J 9 6 2

EAST
♠ J 10 5 4 2
♥ A Q 7 3 2
♦ 10 9
♣ A

SOUTH
♠ A K 7
♥ K J 6 5
♦ A Q
♣ K Q 7 4

South	West	North	East
2 ♣	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
3 NT	Pass	3 NT	All Pass

Opening lead — ♣ 2

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DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ J 10 5 4 2 ♥ A Q 7 3 2
♦ 10 9 ♣ A. Your partner opens one club, you bid one spade, he rebids

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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. 0302

- ACROSS**
- "Nova" aier
 - Like a rumbled bed
 - ___ tha Kyd (big name in rap, once)
 - Lead-in to correct
 - Pothead
 - Road goo
 - Lager or I.P.A.?
 - "Well, what have we here?!"
 - James Bond genre, informally
 - Like a brooding teen, maybe
 - Lose after being way ahead, as a lead
 - Hot fudge or caramel sauce?
 - "I goofed ... who cares!"
 - "Eww, you could have kept that to yourself"
 - The "E" of Q.E.D.
 - [I can hear you, you know]
 - Kind of daisy
 - Lion-colored
 - Neat or on the rocks?
 - Gen ___
 - Part of a wintry mix
 - Salinger heroine
 - Feud (with)
 - Step between "ready" and "fire"
 - "Thanks, but no thanks"
 - Jägermeister or Fireball?
 - Keep ___ on (look after)
 - Chow down on, in modern slang
 - Perfumery scents
 - Part of E.S.L.: Abbr.
 - Chicken broth or beef bouillon?
 - Whichever

- DOWN**
- Homes, in slang
 - Emanation from Barney Gumble on "The Simpsons"
 - Attends to one's mental health, say
 - L.A. school
 - Last in a series
 - Participated in a stock exchange?
 - "Dragon Ball Z" genre of TV and film
 - Boil down
 - Before, to poets
 - Some Russian vodka, informally
 - Web company that styles its name with an exclamation point
 - ___ one's sorrows
 - Disconcerted
 - Scrabble piece
 - Vitamin that could also be a bingo call
 - Desktop debut of 1998
 - Titter
 - "Nothing's broken"

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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

PUZZLE BY ROSS TRUDEAU

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| 27 Hardens | 40 Druid, e.g. | 52 Women's health doc |
| 28 Like a contract that's said to be "not worth the paper it's written on" | 43 Begrudgingly accepts, as a loss | 53 Bonkers |
| 32 Short albums, for short | 45 Whales and water fountains produce them | 54 Figure at a roast |
| 33 Do an impression of | 47 Tutor's charge | 59 Elitist |
| 35 Increase in the number of teams in a league, e.g. | 49 Like wet noodles | 61 Cooke who was known as the "King of Soul" |
| 36 Votes for | 50 Power source for early engines | 62 Wine aperitif |
| 37 Makes a boo-boo | 51 ___Barbera (onetime cartoon company) | 63 Some serious hosp. cases |
| 39 "No kidding?" | | |

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Read about and comment on each puzzle: nytimes.com/wordplay.

BIZARRO

COURTROOM CARICATURE ARTIST

DENNIS THE MENACE

"HOW COME WHEN YOU'RE TIRED I HAVE TO TAKE A NAP?"

HERMAN

"Tell them this one is confidential."

JUMBLE

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

SACEE
TOHTO
PILEPR
SARPO

THE EARTH'S TOP AND BOTTOM WEREN'T GETTING ALONG BECAUSE THEY WERE ---

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

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: RIVER CABIN UNFAIR CANARY
Answer: The new store was doing so well because there were plenty of customers — "NEAR-BUY"

CANDORVILLE

"DID YOU KNOW THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS 'RIGHT NOW'?"

"IF YOU AND I BOTH LOOKED AT THE ANDROMEDA GALAXY... BUT I WAS STANDING STILL WHILE YOU WERE WALKING..."

"...THE STARLIGHT YOU'D SEE WOULD BE FROM A WHOLE DIFFERENT YEAR THAN THE STARLIGHT I'D SEE."

"ALL I SAID WAS, 'YOU'RE LATE, LEMONT.'"

"ONLY FROM YOUR PERSPECTIVE."

WUMO

"I don't care if you reached nirvana! You seem emotionally remote! You forgot our anniversary!"

ZITS

"NEW SHIRT?"

"YEAH. PIERCE DESIGNED IT."

"IT'S A VERY UNUSUAL-LOOKING, UM, FLOWER."

"IT'S ACTUALLY A DESICCATED RAT TONSIL, BUT I'LL PASS ALONG THE COMPLIMENT."

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS**
- Shipwreck signal
 - Stan of Marvel Comics
 - Catch in a trap
 - Time period
 - Off-roader's purchase, for short
 - Quest for intel
 - *Instant in which emotional decisions are made
 - Middle-earth menace
 - Female surfer
 - Times to remember
 - Got a lift, in a way
 - Popular mints
 - Tea container
 - Gradually come to be
 - Wander about
 - Pasture
 - Where one may be taken to be reprimanded
 - Verb in a recipe
 - Like jobs with no future ... and what the start of each answer to a starred clue can be?
 - Tennis court divider
 - Family gathering attendee
 - Pacific Coast st.
 - Loch with a legend
 - Ties to a post
 - Rene of "Get Shorty"
 - Show flexibility
 - Dampen, as sound
 - Help in a bad way?
 - Coral named for its shape
 - Wheaton who played himself on "The Big Bang Theory"
 - *Defeat soundly
 - More despicable
 - Talk trash to
 - Cork's country
 - Cowboy singer Gene
 - Uneaten morsel
 - Ship in Genesis
- DOWN**
- *Flaky type
 - Cheerios grain
 - Came down in flakes
 - Plastering strip
 - Value system
 - Tied, as a score
 - "Seats all taken" sign
 - Archivists
 - Asian laptop brand
 - Barrett of gossip
 - Tolkien tree race
 - Macedonian neighbor
 - MLB's Astros, on scoreboards
 - "Fiddle-___!"
 - Trifling
 - Battering ___
 - Spot on the tube
 - Vote of support
 - *Employment field
 - Keats works
 - Vets' concerns
 - Rave's partner
 - Dog in the comics
 - Brouhaha
 - Animal with a snout
 - Vitality
 - Santa helper
 - Palindromic pop group
 - Steady guy
 - Toward sunrise
 - Speedy
 - "Do or do not. There is no ___": Yoda
 - Title for Paul or Ringo

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

04/06/21

SUDOKU

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

SOLUTION TO PREVIOUS SUDOKU

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

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

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