Daily Bridge Club

Simple Saturday

By FRANK STEWART Tribune Content Agency

"Simple Saturday" columns are meant to improve basic technique and develop logical thinking.

Assumption is said to be the cause of most disasters. As a defender, never assume that declarer's trump suit is rock-solid.

Today's West led the king of hearts against four spades, and East correctly overtook with the ace to get out of his partner's way. West won the heart return with the jack and led the queen, and East discarded a diamond.

Declarer ruffed, led a diamond to dummy and returned a trump: five, king, deuce. He went back to a high club and led a second trump. East took his ace and led a diamond, but South won, drew West's jack of trumps and claimed.

FINESSE

At Trick Three, East can see that the defense will take no more sidesuit tricks. If declarer needs a minorsuit finesse, it will win. East's only hope for a fourth defensive trick lies with the trump suit.

East must ruff the third heart with his ace of trumps. Then West's jack will score for down one.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ A 5 ♥ A 4 ♦ 9 8 5 3 2 ♣ J 6 5 3. Your partner opens one spade, you respond 1NT, he bids

two diamonds and you raise to three diamonds. Partner next bids three hearts. What do you say?

ANSWER: Your partner is trying for game and is painting a picture of his distribution so you can tell whether your honors are useful. His shape is likely to be 5-3-4-1. Bid five diamonds or, maybe better, bid three spades to show your tolerance for that suit.

West dealer Both sides vulnerable

N	OF	RТ	H	
lack	8	7 4	ŀ	
\Diamond	8	63	3	
\Diamond	A	K	J	
*	A	Q	8	7

WEST	EAST
♦ J 3 2	♠ A 5
♡KQJ752	♡ A 4
♦74	\Diamond 9 8 5 3 2
49 9 2	♣ 1653

SOUTH ∧ K Q 10 9 6 ♥ 10 9 ♦ Q 10 6 **♣** K 10 4

West North East Pass 4 \land Pass Pass All Pass

Opening lead $- \heartsuit K$

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SEEKING A FRIENDLY DUPLICATE BRIDGE?

Find five games weekly online at bendbridge.org

The New York Times Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Actor Sean of 'Stranger Things"
- 6 "Right on!"
- 10 Driver's place
- 13 Ancient allegory paralleled in the plot of "The Matrix"
- _ Addams, first American woman to receive the Nobel Peace
- Prize
- 16 Tales of woe **17** Prod
- 18 Some short releases, for short
- **19** "Oh, gimme a break!
- 21 Spots for fighter jets, in brief 22 Journalist who
- comic strip "Capitol Hell"

- a vow
- 28 Gobble up
- 29 Locale near the headwaters of the Tigris and Euphrates, some
- 30 Dating inits. 31 Unmotivated,
- and then some **32** Holy ___
 - 33 Sustenance 35 Cheyenne, e.g.:

Abbr.

36 "That's a _

39 Inebriate

41 Throws

42 Split

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

HOTPOCKETS

AFRESH

S A U D I

I M H O

SETMENU

38 Forces (upon)

40 "Young Man With

a Skull" painter

heavenward

44 Really soak up

R E P O M A N

I M S O R E I D O M O E Y K N O W

T I M H A C K

BRAVEHEART

DOLLUP

QUINCYJONES

T U R N T R A I T O R

CRASHHELMET

NIPSEY

I R O C L E S T

the sun

- wrote the 1990s-2000s
- 23 Ice cream dessert

- 25 One who's taken 45 Cassius Dio said it went "from a kingdom of gold 26 Chafed, say to one of rust and iron"
 - 50 Winter Olympics
 - feat 51 Product of tissue engineering, such as artificial

 - 53 Contemptible sort 54 "Come help me
 - with this" 55 Contemptible
 - 56 Doesn't check,
 - 57 Big buttes

DOWN 1 Locale of the

- Chair of Saint Peter in Saint Peter's Basilica
- 2 Unappetizing bowlful
- 3 Things often seen in windows
- magic!" 5 Statement of inevitability
- 6 The Taj Mahal complex has 42 of them
- 7 Eldest of the **Pleiades** 8 When a vesper
- bell rings
- 9 Beverage brand portmanteau **10** High on the job?
- 11 Pets that commonly have different-colored eves, such as

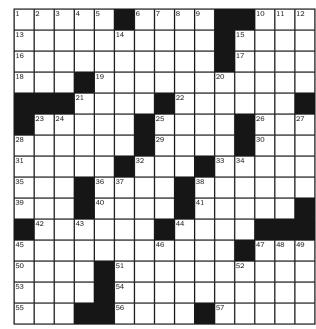
amber

one blue and one

items?

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0313



PUZZLE BY JOHN GUZZETTA

- 12 Existed
- 14 Like many minor-
- key compositions 28 Brings down 15 Sharp increase 32 Place of
- 20 Hardly a test of one's memory
- **21** "Mi (Spanish words
- of endearment) 23 Portable lunch
- options from Japan
- 24 Dingy kitchen
- 44 Really stinks 25 Is lachrymose 45 Hindi for "king" 27 Brings together

 - 46 Amanda Gorman, e.g.
 - 47 Diagonal kind of cut
 - 48 It has coronoid and styloid
 - processes
 - 49 Spots for shams 52 When italicized, word before something

institute exemplary 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.

drudgery

34 Riddled

37 Marathon

38 Like bootleg

43 Eponymous

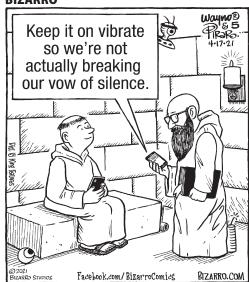
pants

runner's wear

founder of a San

Diego research

BIZARRO



DENNIS THE MENACE

South

2 🌲

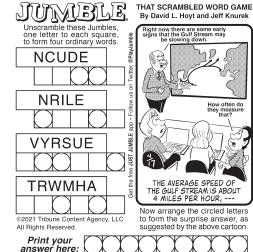


"T'VE BEEN IN THAT BUILDING...IT'S JUST LIKE A BIG MALL WITH OLD STUFF! I THINK MR. WILSON ACTUALLY SHOPS THERE. "





"It's me. I think I'm having a nightmare.



Yesterday's Answer:

The poker player got the card he needed for a royal flush, which - SUITED HIM WELL

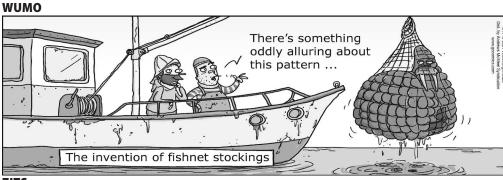
CANDORVILLE



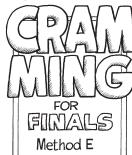


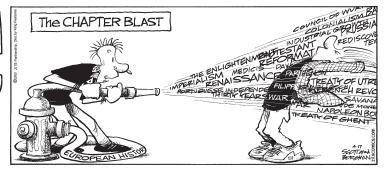






ZITS



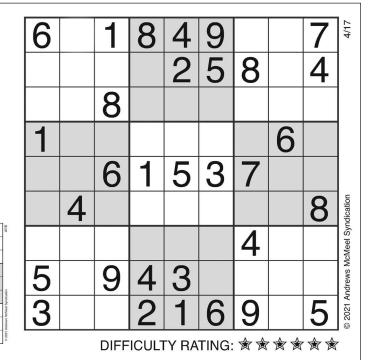


SUDOKU

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

SOLUTION TO PREVIOUS SUDOKU

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





Check and see if I'm in bed.

ACROSS

- 1 Technique percussion with a
- string note 9 Character in "The lliad" but not "The
- Odyssey"? 14 Summer pick-
- me-up 15 Use as a bed 16 Spicy Mexican
- 17 Extract metal from 18 Surg. sites
- 19 Ivy near an Acela

food

- stop 20 Ado
- 21 Big rings
- 23 NBA writer Zach 25 Question of
- method 26 Durango, por
- ejemplo 28 Crudely built
- city?
- 31 Many of today's pro athletes
- 34 Total area? 35 Result of an
- imagined draft 36 Gum with Ice and
- Fire varieties 37 Riverbed deposit
- 41 B. A. Baracus portrayer 42 Warning accompanying
- a link 45 Ideal spots 46 Doomed 16th-century
- force 49 Criminal charges 51 Bon 52 Pressly of "Mom"
- 53 Subdivision showcase 55 Jeanette's "Macbeth" (1948)
- 56 Lenses 57 Touch-and-go 58 Blessings

co-star

DOWN 1 Makes a point? 2 Unleashes on

3 Big letters in

security services 4 Is far from a good sport

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

40 Will of "Blue

5 Perennial #1 35 Company

- NCAA football 6 Even slightly 7 Fifth-cen. pope 36 Key of
- called "The
- Great" 8 Monkey's do
- partner? 9 As well
 - 10 Long way to go?
 - 11 Look here! 12 Depressions 13 __ Jamison, one of two NBA
 - players with 20,000+ points who's not in the
 - Hall of Fame 14 "From your mouth
 - to God's ears" 20 Rears
 - 22 Feel bad about 24 Succeeded in 27 1992 Mamet
 - drama 29 Three-time WNBA MVP
 - on, in a way
 - 30 Synagogue text 32 Performs surgery

34 Like a sure thing

33 Cambridgeshire cathedral city

- 43 Ice cream founded in 1939 alternative, as Auto Avio Costruzioni 44 Moved
- between banks, Beethoven's maybe Violin Concerto 47 Berserk
- 48 Refuse 38 Submission to a radio station, 50 Amps (up) 53 Once-big storage briefly
- 39 Garden guardians unit that's now quite small 54 Farm female

Bloods" ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZI F:

ANOWER TO THE VIOUS TOZZEE.														
S	С	0	T			S	С	Α	М			W	Н	0
Α	L	U	М	S		Р	0	L	E		С	Н	Α	Р
W	Т	Т	С	Н	Т	R	Α	Τ	L		Н	Α	R	Р
L	Р	S		Α	В	Α	Т	Ε		0	U	Т	D	0
o	Α	Т		D	Α	Т	Τ	Ν	G	S	Т	Τ	E	s
G	R	Α	Т	Е	R			L	Α	Т	E	F	Ε	E
s	Т	Υ	Ε			Т	0	_	L	Ε		S	S	R
			D	Т	Α	R	Υ	F	Α	R	М			
D	0	T		S	Т	Α	L	Ε			Α	S	Т	Т
Т	N	V	Α	L	Т	D			S	Т	E	Р	0	N
L	Ε	Т	D	Ε	Т	Ε	С	Т	0	R		R	Р	G
Ε	R	D	0	S		S	Н	Ι	R	Ε		Α	G	Ε
М	0	0	R		S	Н	Т	F	Т	Υ	Ε	Υ	Ε	S
м	U	L	E		R	О	L	F		S	W	E	Α	Т

By Joe Deeney ©2021 Tribune Content Agency, LLC

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