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Daily Bridge Club

Sensational defense

By FRANK STEWART
Tribune Content Agency

Common sense is a flower that doesn't grow in everyone's garden. Neither does "card sense," an ability to mentally manipulate an array of cards.

Today's South smelled a vulnerable game and jumped boldly to four spades. West led the king of hearts, and East took the ace and shifted to the king of diamonds.

South played low, won the next diamond, drew trumps and was in sight of 10 tricks: He led a club to dummy's ten. East's king won the defenders' third and last trick.

What do you say?
ANSWER: I would commit to game. The J-9 of hearts is an encouraging holding, and the clubs will provide winners. Respond two clubs. If partner rebids two hearts, try two spades. If your hand were K J 9 4, J 9, 9 5, A J 4 3 2, you could not afford two forward-going bids. Your correct response would be one spade to look for a fit in the major.

North dealer
Both sides vulnerable

NORTH
♠ K J 9 4
♥ J 9
♦ 9 5
♣ A Q J 10 6

WEST
♠ 3
♥ K Q 10 8 4 2
♦ 10 7 6 4
♣ 7 2

EAST
♠ 7 6 2
♥ A
♦ K Q J 3 2
♣ K 9 5 4

SOUTH
♠ A Q 10 8 5
♥ 7 6 5 3
♦ A 8
♣ 8 3

North 1♣ East 1♦ South 1♠ West 2♥
2♠ Pass 4♠ All Pass

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ K J 9 4 ♥ J 9 ♦ 9 5 ♣ A Q J 10 6. Your partner opens one heart. The next player passes.

Opening lead — ♥ K

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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. 0325

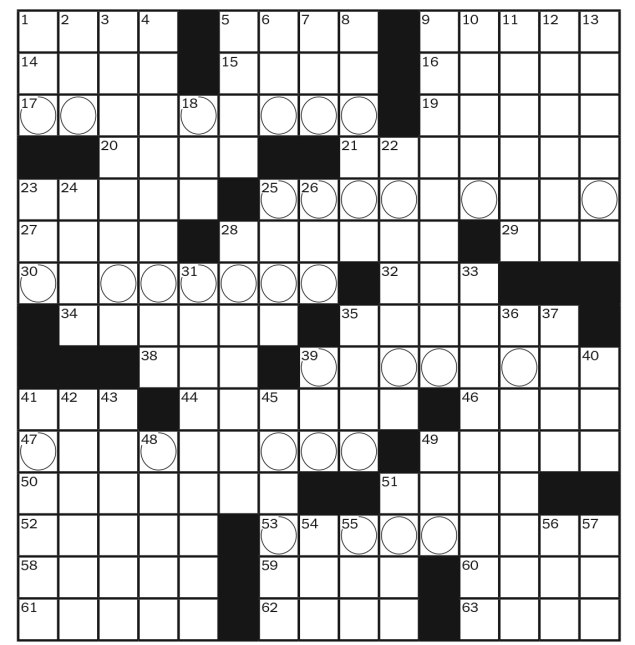
ACROSS

- 1 They can be found just above a six-pack
- 5 China/North Korea border river
- 9 Area named for gynecologist Ernst Grafenberg
- 14 Brazilian export
- 15 Standing above
- 16 Standing by
- 17 Opposite of [circled letters]
- 19 Nick who voices Kullin on "The Mandalorian"
- 20 Pest control brand
- 21 "You betcha!"
- 23 Ancient Indo-European
- 25 Opposite of [circled letters]
- 27 Legal cover-up?

DOWN

- 28 Harvey of Hollywood
- 29 Composer Rorem
- 30 Opposite of [circled letters]
- 32 Get-up-and-go
- 34 Like many Bigfoot photos
- 35 Like horsehair
- 38 Color on the flag of every permanent U.N. Security Council member
- 39 Opposite of [circled letters]
- 41 Up to
- 44 Best
- 46 Brouhaha
- 47 Opposite of [circled letters]
- 49 Sycophant
- 50 Gifts
- 51 Grocery product with orange packaging

- 52 Go from worse to bad, say
- 53 Opposite of [circled letters]
- 58 Prefix with aggression
- 59 "Quick, get that dog some ___" (old ad slogan)
- 60 Carver's tool
- 61 Cry made while removing a jacket
- 62 Just in case
- 63 Dispatch, in a way



PUZZLE BY ALEX EATON-SALNERS

- 23 Intruder warning, maybe
- 24 Director Nicolas
- 25 Start of a counting-out rhyme
- 26 Fruit that's usually dried before consumption
- 28 Most charitable
- 31 Got loaded
- 33 Cons
- 35 Supercomputing pioneer Seymour
- 36 Do some wishful thinking?
- 37 Camelot lady
- 39 Word before food or theory
- 40 Five-point rugby play
- 41 Mat used for judo
- 42 Shortly
- 43 Flowers that "in the dooryard bloom'd," in a Whitman poem
- 45 ___ conservative
- 48 Union Station-Dupont Circle connector, in D.C.
- 49 Bit of ink
- 51 Brisk pace
- 54 Estadio cheer
- 55 Happy states
- 56 Destination of Finnish mail that's addressed to "Yhdysvallat"
- 57 One role for Harriet Tubman in the Civil War

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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

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

BIZARRO

ARRIVAL of the SETTLERS

DENNIS THE MENACE

"DID YOU EVER THINK OF SINGIN' BACKUP, MARGARET?"
"...LIKE WAY BACK UP OVER THERE!"

HERMAN

"If you want to be a grandfather, you've got to make a few sacrifices."

JUMBLE

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

IANGA
CGOEK
HRXOTA
BUDTIO

Answer here:

Yesterday's Jumbles: FLAIL NEEDY POPLAR MANNER
Answer: When their bill was much lower than they expected, it was — "FEE-NOMINAL"

CANDORVILLE

CANDORVILLE

HAVING A DEFECTIVE GUTTER COULD NEVER LEAD TO SOMEONE WITH A BADGE HOGTY'ING ME.

WUMO

ZITS

OKAY, OKAY, ONE PLAIN, BLACK, BORING COFFEE COMING UP.
BUT IF YOUR BARISTA DIES OF ACUTE BOREDOM, THAT'S ON YOU!
I'LL RISK IT.

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 Yanks' NL counterparts, on scoreboards
- 4 Looks at phone pics, say
- 11 Stew ingredient
- 14 Remote battery size
- 15 Pedicure focus
- 16 Burning
- 17 Wrongly-named winner in a 1948 headline
- 19 MD treating canals
- 20 Rival of ancient Athens
- 21 Remove from its box
- 23 Use a block and tackle on
- 24 Egg head?
- 27 Bridge positions
- 28 To the point
- 31 "That's ___-brainer!"
- 32 "Exodus" novelist
- 33 Common game piece
- 34 Floppy
- 37 Felt under the weather
- 39 Spy in "Spectre" (2015)
- 40 "Skyland" artist
- 41 Record concern
- 42 Pique condition?
- 44 Teamwork-inspiring motto
- 48 Plant anew
- 49 Fleet VIP
- 50 Cutlass model
- 53 Stella __: Belgian brew
- 55 College member
- 57 Minute
- 58 Drifters in some Western scenes ... and a hint to what's hidden in the three other longest puzzle answers
- 61 PC linkup
- 62 Zagreb's country
- 63 Musk of Tesla, e.g.

- 64 Yearbook sect.
- 65 It's usually inadmissible
- 66 Truck weight unit

DOWN

- 1 "You betcha!"
- 2 Google rival
- 3 New Zealand natives
- 4 Two-time NL home run leader Giancarlo
- 5 Damage, so to speak
- 6 On a big streak
- 7 Capital ___
- 8 Saul's field in "Better Call Saul"
- 9 Stead
- 10 Cunning
- 11 "Be my guest!"
- 12 Relatively famous physicist?
- 13 Bore witness
- 18 Minor accident
- 22 Cornfield cry
- 25 Leapt
- 26 Legal memo opener
- 29 "Fantastic Mr. Fox" author Dahl
- 30 "Ta-da!"
- 34 "Love Is a Hurtin' Thing" crooner
- 35 Where peripheral vertigo originates
- 36 Bastes, as turkey
- 38 Original site of golf's John Deere Classic
- 39 "No arguing!"
- 41 Cast a spell on
- 43 IndyCar venue
- 45 In addition
- 46 Silvery food fish
- 47 Learn about
- 51 "Not my first ___"
- 52 Burning desire?
- 54 "Fine with me"
- 56 "Star Wars" princess
- 59 Eminent emu-like bird
- 60 Stout server

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

04/29/21

SUDOKU

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

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★