

Wednesday, May 5, 2021

Daily Bridge Club

Falling from grace

By FRANK STEWART
Tribune Content Agency

"When I dropped my toothpaste on the bathroom floor, I was crestfallen." — graffiti

I imagine that South was upset after today's deal. He jumped to 3NT, expecting North to have a six-card diamond suit for his bidding. In fact, North had rebid two diamonds with a five-carder — his alternative was to bid 2NT with three low hearts — but South was still in good shape.

West led the jack of spades, and South won with the king, cashed the ace of diamonds and led a diamond to dummy's king. He was crestfallen when East discarded.

to two hearts and he bids three clubs. What do you say?

ANSWER: Partner's three clubs is a try for game. You have a sound opening bid and can cooperate, but you can't jump to four hearts with three-card support. Bid three diamonds or 3NT. Some players would have bid 1NT at your second turn. I believe the raise to two hearts was correct.

North dealer
N-S vulnerable

NORTH
♠ A 4 2
♥ 7 6 3
♦ K Q 10 6 5
♣ A 5

HEART SHIFT

Since South could get only three diamond tricks, he took the queen and next tried the A-K and a third club. He had no luck there either. East won and shifted to a heart, and South finished with only eight tricks.

South erred. On the second diamond, he can play safe by inserting dummy's ten. If East could win, the suit would be split no worse than 4-2, and South would be sure of four diamonds, two spades, two clubs and one heart.

WEST
♠ J 10 9
♥ Q J 8
♦ J 9 8 7 3
♣ J 4

EAST
♠ Q 8 7 6
♥ K 10 5 2
♦ 4
♣ Q 10 9 8

SOUTH
♠ K 5 3
♥ A 9 4
♦ A 2
♣ K 7 6 3 2

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

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ K 5 3 ♥ A 9 4 ♦ A 2 ♣ K 7 6 3 2. You open one club, your partner responds one heart, you raise

Opening lead — ♠ J

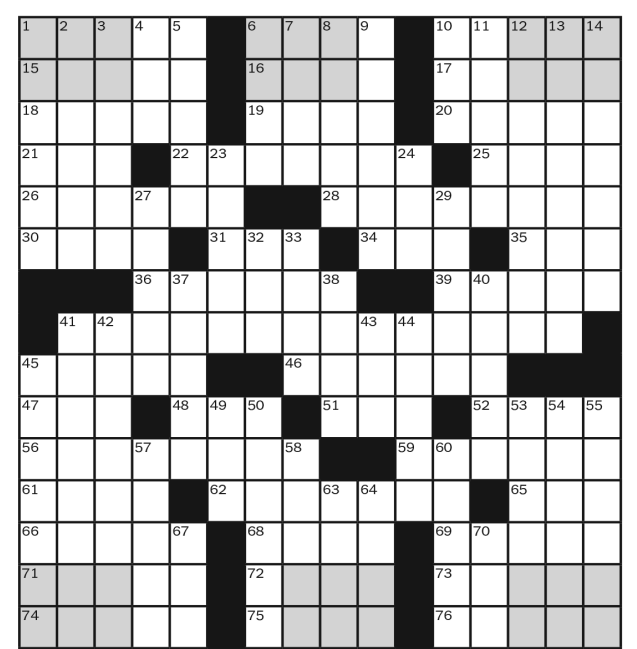
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The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0331

- ACROSS**
- 1 Becomes less important by comparison
 - 6 Newspaper unit
 - 10 "The Garden of Earthly Delights" painter
 - 15 Bitcoin, e.g.
 - 16 Hubbubs
 - 17 Bear who sings "The Bare Necessities" in a 1967 Disney film
 - 18 City near St. Petersburg
 - 19 Bellyache
 - 20 Benjamin Franklin is depicted on the first U.S. one (1847)
 - 21 Virtuoso
 - 22 "C'mon, open the door!"
 - 25 1990s supermodel with a palindromic name
 - 26 Like regular exercise and happiness, per research
 - 28 Put one's trust in
 - 30 Fill to the gills
 - 31 43rd prez
 - 34 Mrs., on Majorca
 - 35 Japanese salad herb
 - 36 Pint-size
 - 39 Something to believe in
 - 41 Smaller parts making up a larger whole ... with a hint to the six groups of shaded squares in this puzzle
 - 45 Brand of knives touted in classic infomercials
 - 46 2006 Winter Olympics host
 - 47 Diamond stat
 - 48 Dance move that went from trendy to cringey in the 2010s
 - 51 Heracles, to Zeus
- DOWN**
- 52 Stitch's pal, in film
 - 56 "Two thumbs up!"
 - 59 Key of Beethoven's Ninth
 - 61 Above-the-knee skirt
 - 62 Brown loaf with an earthy taste
 - 65 Pet rocks, once
 - 66 They turn litmus paper red
 - 68 Stead
 - 69 Part of a political convention roll call
 - 71 Checks out, in a way
 - 72 Thingy
 - 73 Satirist Baron Cohen
 - 74 Singer John whose middle name is Hercules
 - 75 Food for a sea urchin
 - 76 Company behind the first microprocessor



PUZZLE BY TRENTON CHARLSON

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



- 12 Emphatic two-pointer
- 13 Going places?
- 14 "Heaven forbid!"
- 23 Sidled (along)
- 24 "Fresh Air" broadcaster
- 27 French military headwear
- 29 Use, as dishes
- 32 Conflict that ended at 11:00 on 11/11
- 33 Crooked
- 37 Slip past
- 38 Swelled heads
- 40 Food-spoiling bacterium
- 41 Like Sodom and Gomorrah
- 42 Abraham Lincoln, for one
- 43 Modern lead-in to -grammer
- 44 ___ hop (swing era dance)
- 45 Not a happy face
- 49 Put two and two together?
- 50 Mayim who played Army Farrah Fowler on "The Big Bang Theory"
- 53 "Believe it or not ..."
- 54 Abhor
- 55 Herculean undertaking
- 57 Many a smartphone recording
- 58 Far from original
- 60 Soccer great with a statue in Buenos Aires
- 63 Topple (over)
- 64 Posterior
- 67 Nine-digit ID, in brief
- 70 Shade of brown

Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 7,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year).

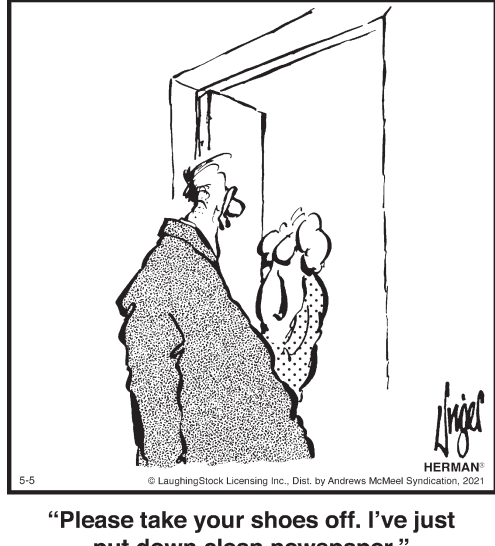
BIZARRO



DENNIS THE MENACE



HERMAN



JUMBLE

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

MLEUP
FAXIF
VILRED
GLUTLE

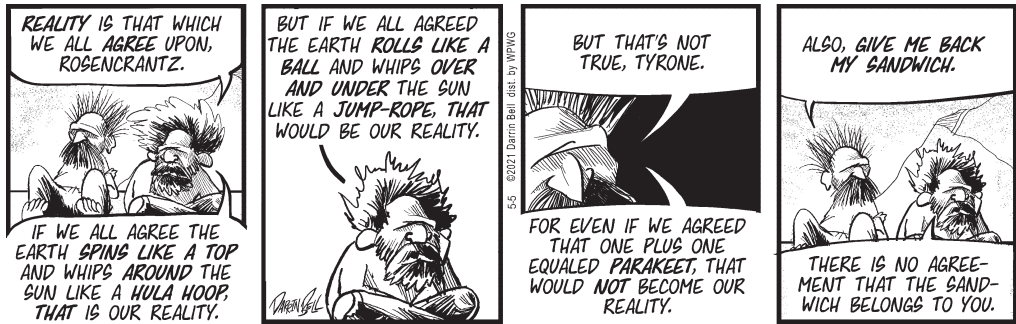
THEY EACH ATE A LARGE MEAL AT THE ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT BUFFET AND WERE LEAVING...

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

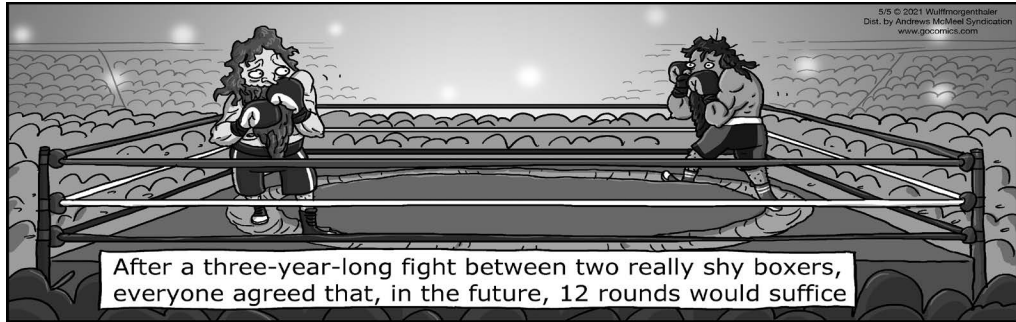
Answers tomorrow

Yesterday's Jumbles: GRAND SNARL DIVERT ABACUS
Answer: The protectors at Buckingham Palace can't sit down on the job, so they — STAND GUARD

CANDORVILLE



WUMO



ZITS



Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 Wife of Jupiter
 - 5 Element #5
 - 10 Opening on Broadway
 - 14 "I'm thinkin' no"
 - 15 First in a line of Russian princes
 - 16 Pastoral plants
 - 17 *Broadcast medium for major U.S. sporting events
 - 19 PC shortcut key
 - 20 Teacher with a class of one
 - 21 Adrienne Rich work, e.g.
 - 23 Issa of "The Lovebirds"
 - 24 Gymnast Raisman
 - 25 *Request at a mom-and-pop store, maybe
 - 29 "The Sweetest Taboo" singer
 - 30 Right direction?
 - 31 Developer's unit
 - 34 Investment option: Abbr.
 - 36 Align, as two signals
 - 38 Early ... or where the answers to the starred clues' ending words can be found
 - 41 Brazilian port city
 - 42 21st Greek letter
 - 43 Butcher's stock
 - 44 School gps.
 - 45 Takes advantage of
 - 47 *NASA event
 - 51 Seller of Souls
 - 54 Cartoon frame
 - 55 Chanel rival
 - 56 Laughs loudly
 - 58 Utah ski resort
 - 60 *Field trip transport
 - 63 Bigfoot in photos, e.g.
 - 64 Shade thrower
 - 65 Novelist Émile
 - 66 Racy message
 - 67 Adversary
 - 68 Fall in line
 - 2 DIY moving option
 - 3 Like some candy bar flavors
 - 4 Indiana neighbor
 - 5 TSA checkpoint container
 - 6 Fertility lab cells
 - 7 Lauren of fashion
 - 8 Victorious
 - 9 Skin care brand
 - 10 "The Rookie" network
 - 11 Organization that keeps "purr"-ps off the street?
 - 12 Arachnophobe's nightmare
 - 13 Comic strip landmass with a single palm tree
 - 18 Penguin-hunting swimmer
 - 22 "What baloney!"
 - 26 "Until next time"
 - 27 Feudal laborer
 - 28 Button-shaped candies
 - 29 Airport near Puget Sound, for short
 - 31 Two-yr. degrees
 - 32 Dave honored with a Mark Twain Prize in 2019
 - 33 Common prom expenditure
 - 35 African snake
 - 36 With 51-Down, skewered Middle Eastern dish
 - 37 Puppy or kitten
 - 39 Medicated
 - 40 Down in one go
 - 46 Raison d'__
 - 47 Wound covers
 - 48 Microfilm unit
 - 49 "Mean Girls" star Lindsay
 - 50 Very hot
 - 51 See 36-Down
 - 52 "Yay me!"
 - 53 Test for purity
 - 57 Pastina relative
 - 59 Valuable oil, say
 - 61 Sleep letters
 - 62 Have a go at

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:



SUDOKU

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

SOLUTION TO PREVIOUS SUDOKU

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

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

- DOWN**
- 1 Leadership after some coups

By August Miller
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