Saturday, May 29, 2021

Daily Bridge Club

Simple Saturday

By FRANK STEWART
Tribune Content Agency

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

"Occam's Razor" (from William of Ockham, a 14th century philosopher) states that the simplest explanation of an event is probably correct. In other words, make no more assumptions than necessary.

Today's West leads the nine of hearts against 3NT: deuce, ten, king. South has eight tricks. He knows that if West gains the lead, another heart will be fatal. Suppose South plans to try for a ninth trick by taking two club finesses. If West has the king or queen, South can win three club tricks, and West won't get in.

FIRST CLUB

That plan fails when West holds both honors. He will play an honor on the first club lead and get in to lead a second heart.

South must assume that East has the ace of spades; the contract is sure to fail if West has it. Instead of attacking the clubs — making too many assumptions — South should lead the king of spades at Trick Two. As the cards lie, he is safe.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ K Q 9 5 2 ♡ K 7 ◇ Q 5 2 ♣ 10 9 4. Your partner opens one heart, you respond one spade and he rebids two hearts. What do you say?

ANSWER: Your partner promises six or more hearts (he would never be obliged to rebid a five-card heart suit here) but minimum opening values. You might bid again with a 10-point hand such as A 9 5 3 2, Q 7, A 5 2, 10 7 4. There might be nine fast tricks at notrump. As it is, with "slower" values, pass.

North dealer
N-S vulnerable

NORTH
♠ None
♡ Q 4 2
◇ A K J 10 8 3
♣ A J 8 5

WEST
♠ 10 8 7 6 3
♡ 9 8 5
◇ 7
♣ K Q 6 2

EAST
♠ A J 4
♡ A J 10 6 3
◇ 9 6 4
♣ 7 3

SOUTH
♠ K Q 9 5 2
♡ K 7
◇ Q 5 2
♣ 10 9 4

North	East	South	West
1 ◇	1 ♡	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♣	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 ◇	Pass	3 NT	All Pass

Opening lead — ♡ 9

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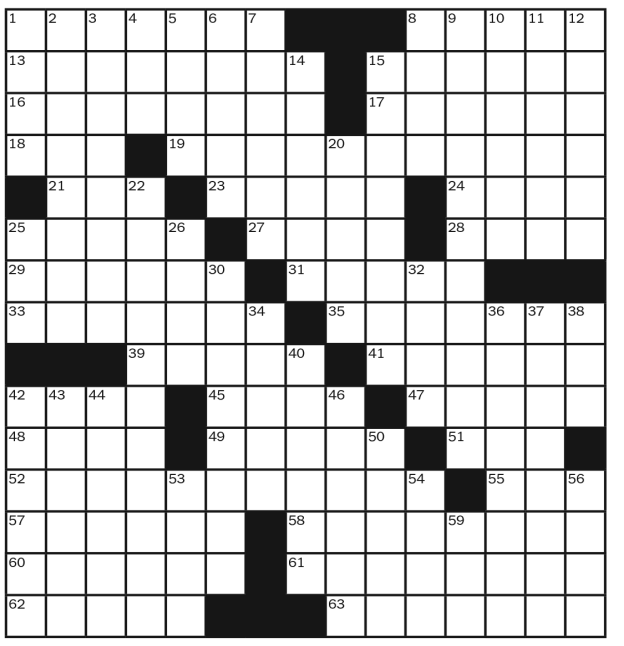
SEEKING A FRIENDLY DUPLICATE BRIDGE?
Find five games weekly online at bendbridge.org

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0424



PUZZLE BY KRISTIAN HOUSE AND MIKE DOCKINS

ACROSS

1 Not-so-bright sort
8 Dalliance
13 Rockies you won't find in Colorado?
15 Bully
16 Word that comes from the Dutch for "soothsayer" and, despite appearances, has no relation to a unit of measurement
17 Stinging bug
18 Dallas-to-Duluth dir.
19 Singer who rose to fame on "The X Factor"
21 Bug
23 Clean again, perhaps
24 Vulcan's specialty
25 Bum-rush
27 Simple building block
28 Indicator to be quiet
29 Feels for
31 Capone cohort Frank
33 Co-star of Apple TV+'s "The Morning Show"
35 Implausible argument, say
39 Sticky food?
41 Mister, in Manaus
42 Streak
45 Bit recorded on a Fitbit
47 Perfect spots
48 "That's ___ need"
49 Coverage of the royal family?
51 61-Across, e.g.
52 Take
55 Lock (up)
57 Orange pal of Pooh with black stripes
58 "Yeah, right"
60 Journalist Parker with a 2018 Pulitzer Prize
61 Kia model introduced in 1993
62 "___ a Pizza" (punnily titled children's book)
63 Made a bee line for?

DOWN

1 Start
2 Cry upon hitting the jackpot
3 Auto pioneer Alfieri
4 Off week, say
5 Jazz hangout?
6 Old Renault model
7 Amount of fun, maybe
8 What podophobia is the fear of
9 Some boos
10 Awkward way to be caught
11 2020 Super Bowl-losing squad
12 Prepare
14 Some males in tales
15 Chip's mother in "Beauty and the Beast"
20 Real posers?
22 Stocking stuffer
25 Kind of treatment
26 Like writing about writing
30 "Cry me a river!" elicitor, perhaps
32 Corner
34 When?
36 Regular order
37 What parallel lines never do
38 Schedule info: Abbr.
40 Cartoon character with the hyperactive alter ego Cornholio
42 [Testing, testing]
43 Kid-lit character who lives in the Plaza Hotel
44 Touch down
46 Gets just so
50 Hardly a man without morals
53 Green pocketful
54 Rocked, so to speak
56 Ganja
59 Lambert airport inits.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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

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BIZARRO

DENNIS THE MENACE

HERMAN

"Your mother's been at my wine again."

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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

ALYNM
CABHE
FYLOST
VOLIJA

Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

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

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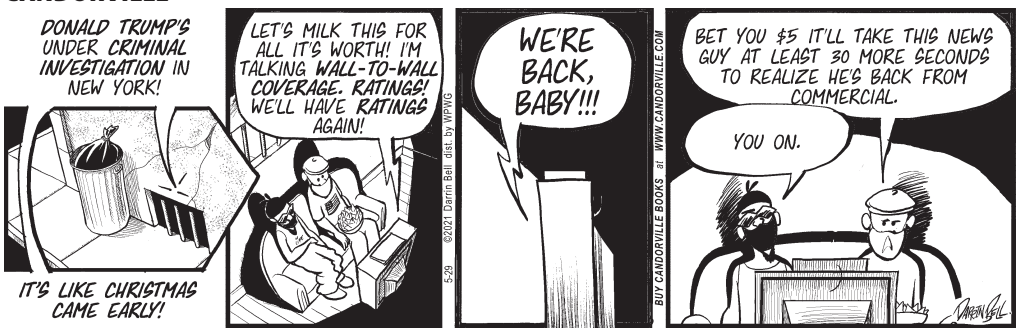
Print your answer here:

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: LEAVE IMAGE LEVITY CODDLE
Answer: They weren't made of gold, silver or bronze, but the top three awards were — "MEDALLIC"

CANDORVILLE



WUMO

ZITS

SUDOKU

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

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

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★★

SOLUTION TO PREVIOUS SUDOKU

SOLUTION:

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

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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

1 153-year-old group that became unisex nationally in 1995
5 Core muscles
8 Get some air
14 Assuring word on a cleaning product label
16 Fuel-carrying ship
17 "The Sound of Music" song opener
18 Stronger-than-steel material
19 Like protozoans
21 Prefix with motor
22 "Casablanca" café
23 Sushi bar fare
25 Cruise stop
26 Salt sources
27 Quirks
30 Second sight, say, briefly
31 Perfectly executed
32 "All peachy!"
33 Targets of some blocking software
35 Adobe file format
38 Dangerous things to be behind
39 Jazzman Saunders
40 Instruction unit
41 "Sure!"
42 Salt's companion
43 Drink with a 2021 Peeps variety
45 2019 pop biopic
48 Cowering
50 As it happens
51 Cause to lose it
52 Like a clean shave
53 Seat of Ohio's Montgomery County
54 Growth chart nos.
55 Sales crew members

DOWN

1 Score some political points for
2 Canadian coins
3 Shinbone neighbor
4 IHOP servings
5 Jump on the ice
6 "The Sinner" Golden Globe winner Jessica
7 Insect-resistant home feature
8 "Gross!"
9 Vetoes
10 Feel sorry for, with "on"
11 Apt slogan on merchandise featuring MLB slugger Aaron Judge
12 "I need solitude"
13 Slips
15 Works with rhyming props?
20 Having teeth
24 African currency whose singular form is part of its country's name
27 Pretty much
28 Less likely to chillax
29 Roentgen cousins
31 Noted starter?
32 Foldable auto convenience
33 Aerial
34 Cook with batter, usually
35 Loved cheese lovers?
36 Visualize
37 Bug stoppers
38 Glimpsed
39 Have some impact
42 Two of the Spice Girls
44 Shakespearean standard-bearer
46 Gael, for one
47 Foe of CONTROL on "Get Smart"
49 "The Last Jedi" villain

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

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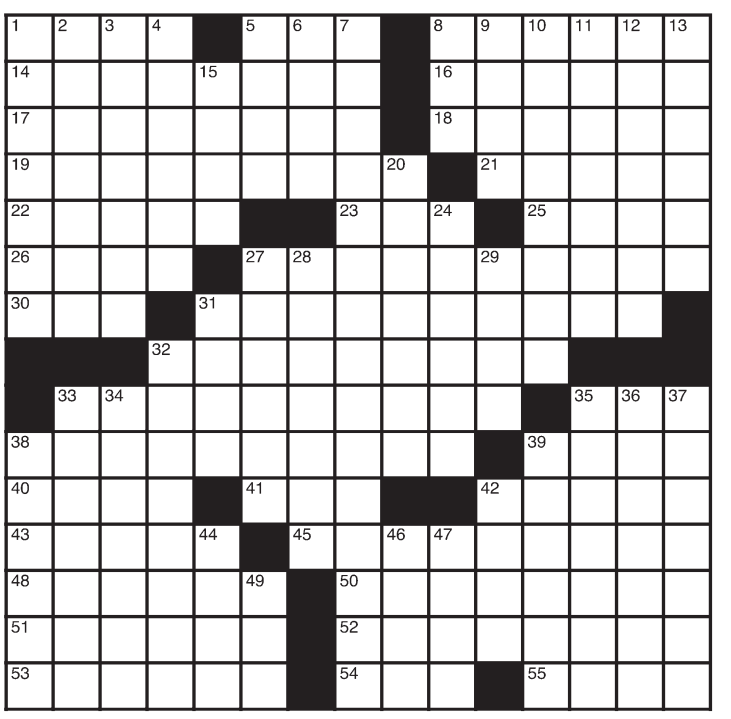

By Freddie Cheng
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05/29/21