Saturday, June 12, 2021

Daily Bridge Club

Simple Saturday

By FRANK STEWART
Tribune Content Agency

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

Defenders are supposed to observe a host of "rules" — for instance, "third hand high" — that are really only tendencies. One guideline worth following: Let declarer win his first try at a repeatable finesse.

At today's 3NT, South leads a diamond to dummy's jack at the second trick. Suppose East takes the king and returns a heart. Declarer wins, takes the A-Q of diamonds and concedes a diamond. He has nine tricks: three diamonds, three hearts, a spade and two clubs.

EIGHT TRICKS

Let East duck the first diamond. South will surely return to his hand for a second diamond finesse, and then East wins. South can't reach dummy to set up the fifth diamond and get back to cash it. He could still succeed but will probably go down.

Declarer could (and should, at IMPs or party bridge) prevail by playing low from dummy on the first diamond, preserving an entry to dummy. That play wouldn't occur to most declarers.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ K Q 7 2 ♡ J 10 9 8 5 ◇ 10 8 ♣ Q 5. Your partner opens one club, you respond one heart, he bids one spade and you raise to two spades. Partner then bids three diamonds. What do you say?

ANSWER: Partner's three diamonds is a try for game and asks you to consider whether you have useful cards. Since you have excellent spade support, a "working" queen of clubs and only a wasted jack in hearts opposite partner's shortness, jump to four spades.

South dealer
N-S vulnerable

NORTH
♠ J 5 3
♡ 4 2
◇ A Q J 4 3
♣ A 9 4

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

EAST
♠ 9 8 6
♡ 7 6
◇ K 9 7 6
♣ J 10 8 7

SOUTH
♠ A 10 4
♡ A K Q 3
◇ 5 2
♣ K 6 3 2

South	West	North	East
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	All Pass

Opening lead — ♡ J

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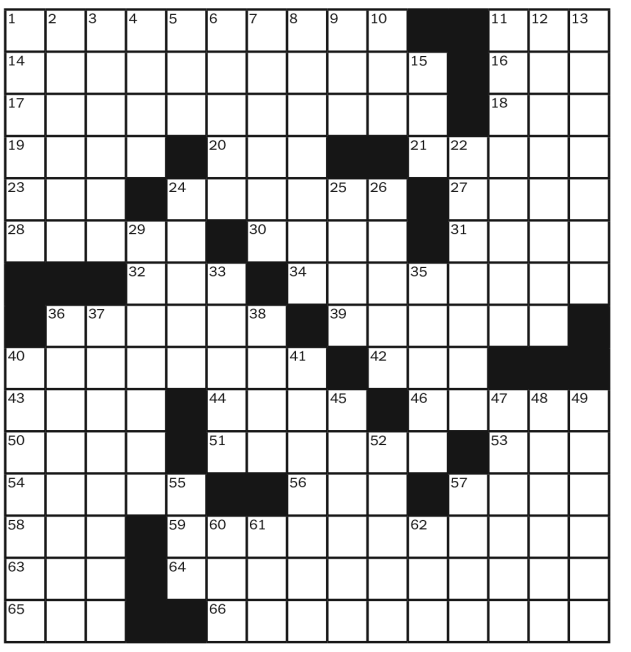
SEEKING A FRIENDLY DUPLICATE BRIDGE?
Find five games weekly online at bendbridge.org

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0508



PUZZLE BY DAVID STEINBERG

ACROSS
1 Supreme court member?
11 III, e.g., in "Richard III"
14 Number of days it takes Mercury to orbit the sun
16 It becomes another question when its first letter is moved to the end
17 "Wall Street" catchphrase
18 Chump
19 Just a bit
20 Like the last in a line
21 Wear
23 Day to post a throwback picture on social media: Abbr.
24 What a nod might mean
27 ___ bowl
28 Perfumery compound
30 Actress Shields, mother of Brooke
31 One stoner to another
32 Satisfied sigh
34 What a shrug might mean
36 Was up, in a sense
39 Nibbles
40 Cheap cab, perhaps
42 Org. with an annual Codebreaker Challenge
43 More than suspicious of
44 Be in the works
46 Irish name that's a Slavic name backward
50 The old you?
51 Like some unpleasant comments
53 Kind of trip taken solo
54 Utah's "Industry," e.g.
56 Camper's gear chain
57 Throw (together)
58 It can lay a one-and-a-half-pound egg
59 "Hold on!"
63 Calculator button next to cos
64 Words after "The end"?
65 Lead-in to stars or daylight
66 Soft, green food

DOWN
1 Void
2 Once-in-a-lifetime events
3 Get too old
4 "I'm right here"
5 Business letters
6 Horizontal
7 Walt Whitman wrote one beginning "Lo, 'tis autumn"
8 Turn right, say
9 Years ___
10 Sorority letter
11 "How adorable!"
12 It involves much ear-tugging and head-shaking
13 Grade-A
15 Notable examples of crossing a line, in brief
22 Noodle dish whose name indicates its cuisine
24 Steaming
25 Club type
26 Pumbaa's friend in "The Lion King"
29 Goes on a dinner date, e.g.
33 They may be used in a pinch
35 Composition test
36 Easy friendliness
37 Correction for a wild pitch
38 "Marriage Story" Oscar winner
40 Dumpster fire
41 Lacks
45 Ring in the holiday spirit?
47 Flood
48 Annual genre writing award
49 Common complex rule
52 Celebrity portmanteau beginning in 2012
55 Accept the blame for
57 Impertinent sort
60 Archery need
61 Grocery store found in Michigan?
62 Pete Buttigieg's home state: Abbr.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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

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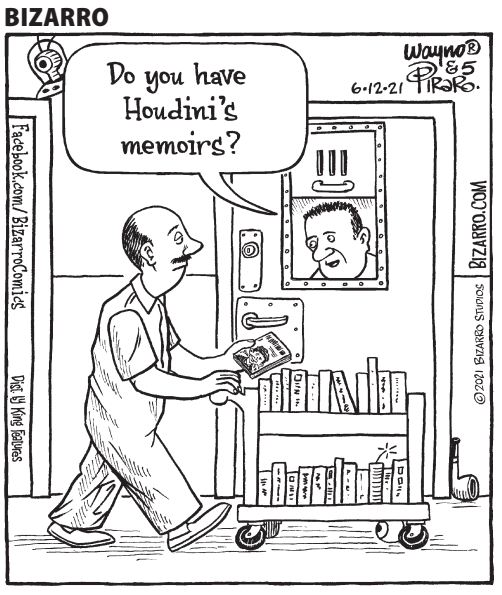
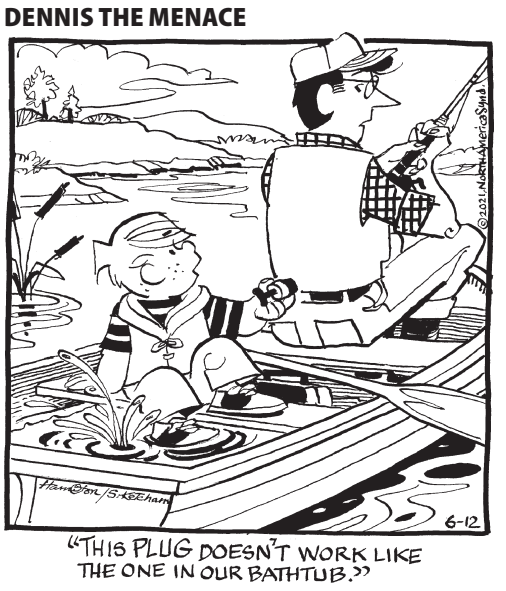
BIZARRO

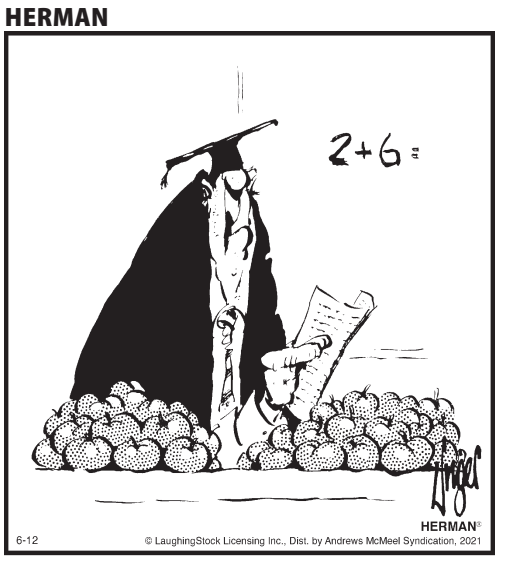


DENNIS THE MENACE



"THIS PLUG DOESN'T WORK LIKE THE ONE IN OUR BATHTUB."

HERMAN



"OK, here are your exam results."

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.

CREOF

NUTOC

GRFTOO

RPRAUO

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

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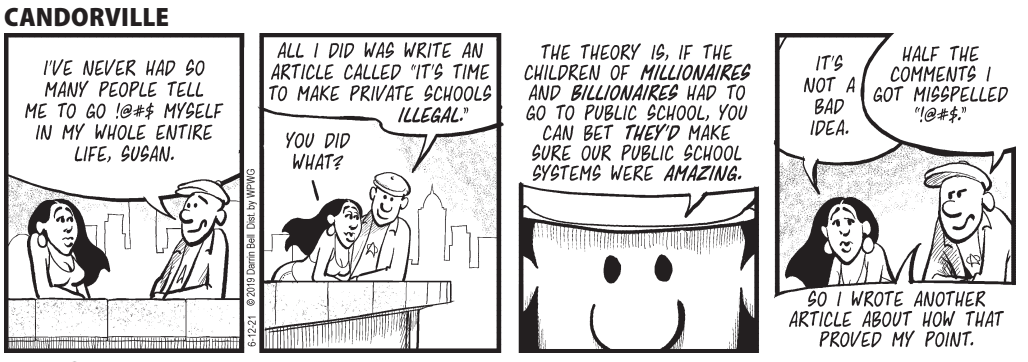
THE

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: TINGE ADAGE GENDER SMOKER
Answer: After they combined their businesses, a new company — EMERGED

CANDORVILLE



WUMO

ZITS

SUDOKU

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

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

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★★

SOLUTION TO PREVIOUS SUDOKU

SOLUTION:

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

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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS
1 Made a seat-of-the-pants mistake?
11 Spunkmeyer of cookie fame
15 As it happens
16 "Hmm ... don't think so"
17 It's undeliverable
18 Tibiae supporters
19 "Done!"
20 Symbol on a Heineken label
22 Request sweetener
25 Word of agreement
26 Palmer of "The Boys From Brazil"
27 Electric __
28 Refuse
29 Crazily
30 Filling material
32 Appetite
33 Keyboard in a Bach title
34 Besides
37 Spell
38 Soul singer Franklin
39 Hog's little cousin
42 More than a stretch
43 Depressing
44 Showing ingenuity in
46 Queen of fiction
47 The Acropolis, in its time
48 California city name meaning "tar"
49 Female gamete
50 Tentacled marine creature
55 TripAdvisor rival
56 Industry-specific publication
57 Span. titles
58 Responds to anxiety, in a way

DOWN
1 Nod, maybe
2 Nice article
3 Song syllable
4 Address limited to 18 minutes
5 Monetary unit of The Gambia
6 __-France: Paris region
7 Encouraging start?
8 Started burning
9 Old cooking show that often had a Creole theme
10 Literature Nobelist Walcott
11 Lapped, perhaps
12 In other words
13 Having the worst record
14 Evening do
21 Big name in Scotch
22 Latitude
23 Key __
24 Tar Heel State university
25 "Don't bother"
27 What an online beep may signify
30 Bar none
31 "Fancy that!"
33 Relinquished
34 Ring bearer
35 "The Wire" antihero __ Little
36 Oenophile's adjective
37 Modifies
38 Author/activist Johnson who attended President Obama's inauguration at age 105
39 Real things?
40 "Food, Glorious Food" musical
41 "Downtown" singer Clark
43 They may replace oaths
45 Breaks
46 White-tailed seabirds
48 Ordered
51 Berne's river
52 Günter's gramps
53 Celtic foe
54 Hosp. areas

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

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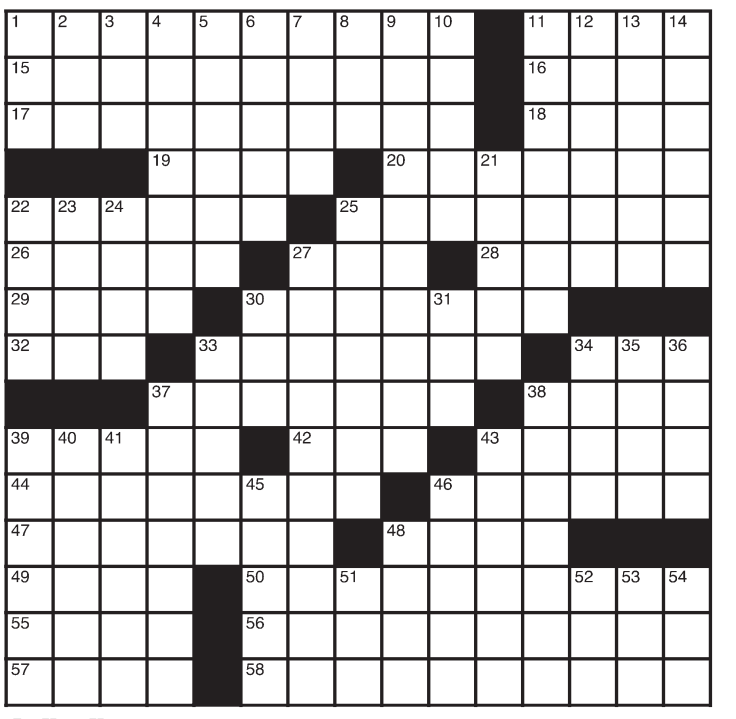

By Kurt Krauss
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