Saturday, May 21, 2022

Daily Bridge Club

Simple Saturday

By FRANK STEWART
Tribune Content Agency

"Simple Saturday" columns focus on improving basic technique and developing logical thinking.

Cy the Cynic says that if at first you don't succeed, hire somebody to do it for you. But you can't bring in someone to substitute for you as declarer. Learn the techniques.

Against today's 3NT, West leads the ten of hearts: jack, queen, king. Declarer wants to win the next eight tricks. West is likely to have started with five hearts, and if the defenders get in and cash four hearts, South will be down one.

NINE TRICKS

South has options. He can take nine tricks if he picks up the diamonds: five diamonds, two spades, a heart and a club. If the club finesse works, South can win four clubs, two diamonds, two spades and a heart. Which route should he take?

South can combine his chances, a common technique. He takes the K-A of diamonds, and when East's queen falls, South is home.

If at first South didn't succeed — both defenders played low diamonds — South would finesse in clubs.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ A K 4 ♡ K 4 3 ◇ K 5 2 ♣ A J 10 5. Both sides vulnerable. After two passes, the player at your right opens three hearts. What do you say?

ANSWER: Your opponent's preempt has left you with no room to look for your best contract; you must guess. You should assume that your partner has a fair share of the missing points. Bid 3NT. If the defenders lead hearts, you can hold up your king and hope to isolate the preempter's long hearts.

North dealer
N-S vulnerable

NORTH
♠ 9 6 2
♡ J 7
◇ A J 10 4 3
♣ Q 9 4

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

EAST
♠ Q J 8 5
♡ Q 8 5
◇ Q 7
♣ 8 7 6 3

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

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

Opening lead — ♡ 10

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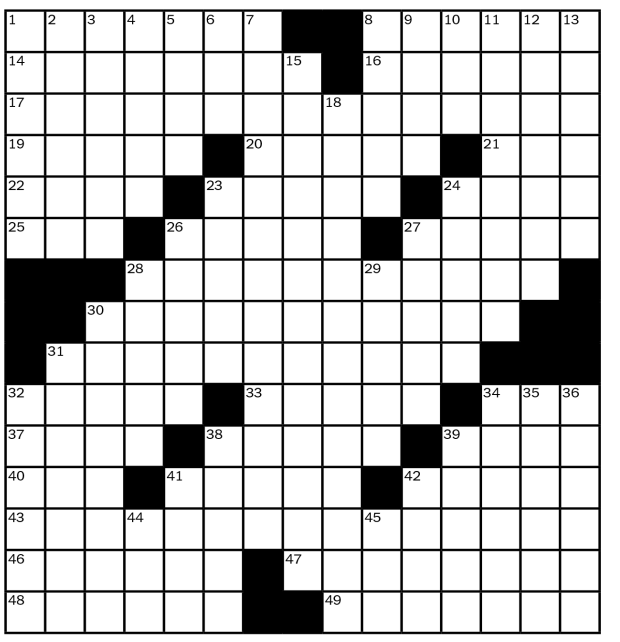
SEEKING A FRIENDLY DUPLICATE BRIDGE?
Find five games weekly online at bendbridge.org

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0416



PUZZLE BY HEMANT MEHTA

ACROSS

1 Like much White House press
8 Stick with
14 Social elites
16 Susan who wrote "The Orchid Thief"
17 Line of Pokémon
19 Actor James of "The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air"
20 ___ Who Code (nonprofit)
21 Forerunner of rocksteady
22 Bad thing to miss
23 Native Costa Ricans, informally
24 Something that might be raised in a fight
25 Amount to
26 Locales for the Jets and the Sharks
27 Like wicker chairs
28 Daisy Dukes, e.g.
30 Draft status?
31 Excessive coverage, perhaps
32 Mounted
33 Daylight saving time adjustment: Abbr.
34 You might have one on the side
37 Roaster
38 Sound of the West Coast
39 What stamens are, in botany
40 Word with change or color
41 Unmasked, say
42 Swears at
43 Travel around the world
46 Stuck in the Middle Ages?
47 Summer cooler
48 Early Macedonian capital
49 Divinity

DOWN

1 Famed Portuguese explorer
2 Good luck with that!
3 "Oh, get outta here!"
4 Lead-in to physical
5 Suspension of a sort
6 Onetime trade org.
7 Sue
8 Target alternative
9 "De dónde ___?" (Spanish 101 query)
10 ___ borer (beetle)
11 Russian Revolution figures
12 Silent counterparts, once
13 Where cruise passengers end up
15 Propensity for pilfering
18 Practice that yields mixed results?
23 New York county near Pennsylvania
24 Big name in crackers
26 1998 Robert De Niro crime thriller
27 The heart of Paris
28 Try to win, in a way
29 Author/screenwriter Ben
30 "Drink marvelously" sloganeer
31 Trailer
32 Look up, in a way
34 Something a 38-Down likes to eat
35 Current weather concern?
36 Tried-and-true
38 An adult one can spend up to 16 hours a day eating
39 Footslog
41 Contests in which the competitors are eliminated one by one
42 Pulitzer winner Maureen
44 Syringe amts.
45 Soft-spoken words

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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

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.

BIZARRO

DENNIS THE MENACE

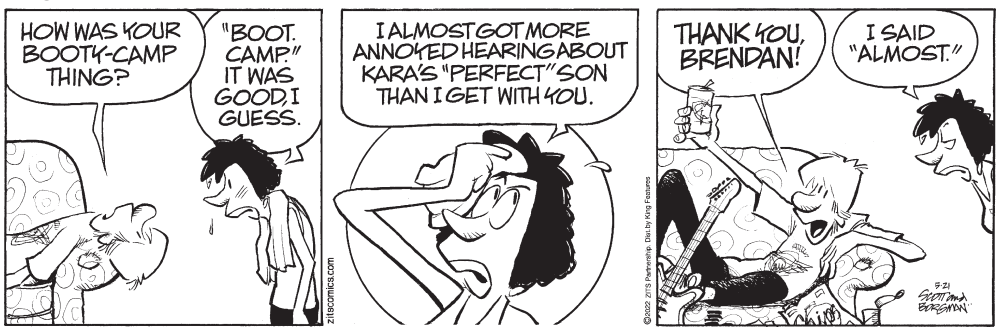
HERMAN

"Had enough music?"

CANDORVILLE

WUMO

ZITS



JUMBLE

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

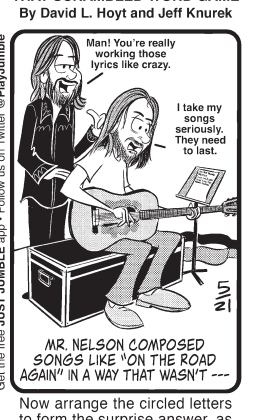
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LMITI

MPIYL

GNOREL

WGLEGA



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

"_____" - _____

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: IGLOO SLOSH NOGGIN UTOPIA
Answer: The train was late, and their final goodbye on the train platform was going to — LAST SO LONG

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Patti Varol and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

1 Support that's often rigged
5 Role, metaphorically
8 Pair sharing a <3 necklace, probably
12 Instruments in some Gershwin works
15 "I don't mind __ / Except as meals. / And the way they feels": Nash
16 Tabula rasa
18 Joie de vivre
19 Susan who wrote, "The writer's first job is not to have opinions but to tell the truth"
20 Sources of fleeting joy?
22 "Wrong hand, silly"
26 Active front?
27 Postulant
28 Grace period?
31 "Toodles!"
33 Tree on the Lebanese flag
34 Latin law
35 Place to get high and pass out?
37 Rx writers, often
38 Device that requires spin control
40 Inoculation fluids
41 Literary alter ego
42 Self-consoling sigh
44 Animal in Aboriginal cave paintings
46 Line on a handwriting test
50 One of two tarot card groups
51 Went viral
53 State whose road signs feature 8-Downs
54 Academic term
57 Nice parent
58 Dessert with a high point
59 Son of Hera
60 GRE org.
61 Like a fly ball to the warning track

DOWN

1 Safari runners
2 Heterogenous union
3 One working with a dictator
4 Perfectly
5 Lacks options
6 Rose up on stage
7 Leaves in a pot
8 Symbol of 53-Across
9 Was awash in euphoria
10 Study aid
11 Three-part fig.
13 Bag
14 Eyelid issue
17 Make dough or bread
21 Earthenware vessel
23 Bags
24 Breeding grounds
25 Clipped
28 Wiped out
29 One having a cow?
30 Not well-done in the least
32 Derived from gold
35 Brandon __: Hilary Swank's "Boys Don't Cry" role
36 Tiny tech powering Iron Man and Black Panther's suits
39 Tours of duty
41 Sweet
43 Fox holes
45 "Mine! Mine! Mine!" criers in "Finding Nemo"
47 Small pouches
48 Poetic contraction
49 Polished
52 Get set
53 Actress Thurman
55 Rowing implement?
56 Many times o'er

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

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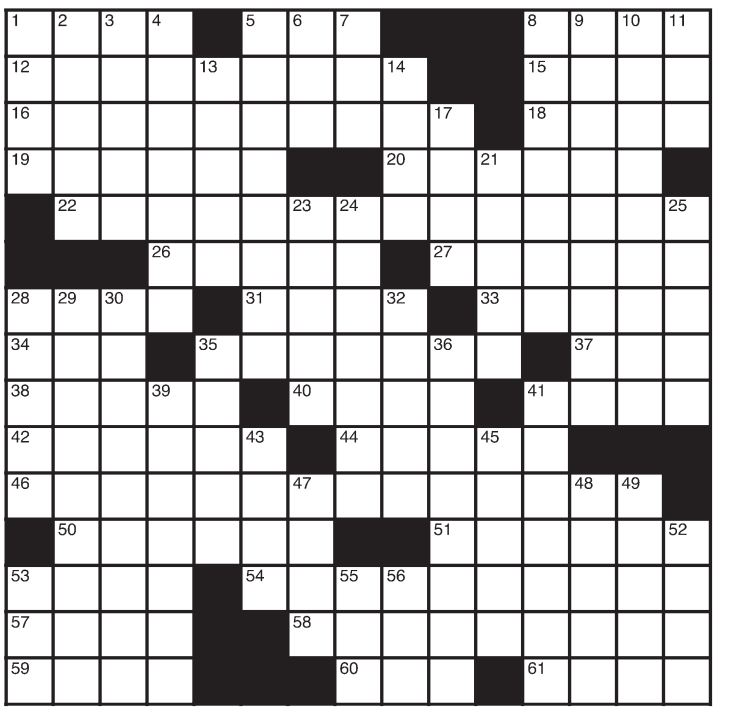

By Jeff Chen & Christina Iverson
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SUDOKU

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

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

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★★

SOLUTION TO PREVIOUS SUDOKU

SOLUTION:

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

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