

SCRABBLE®

UNABRIDGED

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A1

I1

L1

N1

P3

B3

L1

RACK 1

A1

E1

I1

D3

P3

R1

1st Letter Triple

RACK 2

A1

E1

J8

T1

T1

C3

R1

Double Word Score

RACK 3

A1

E1

U1

Y4

R1

M3

C3

RACK 4

PAR SCORE 155-165

BEST SCORE 224

FOUR RACK TOTAL

TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE® Players Dictionary, 5th Edition.

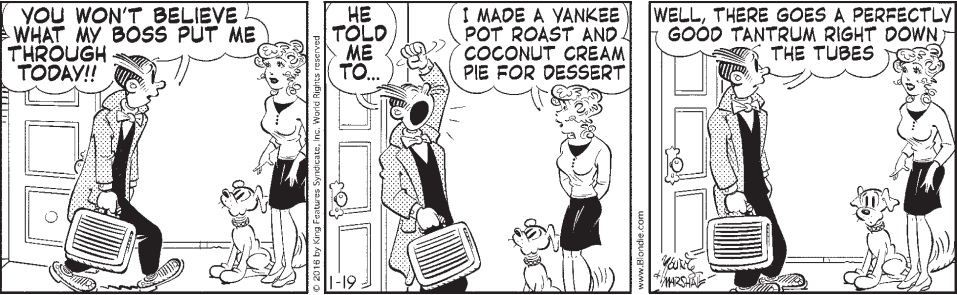
For more information on tournaments and clubs, email NASPA - North American SCRABBLE Players Association info@scrabbleplayers.org. Visit our website - www.scrabbleplayers.org. For puzzle inquiries contact scrags@gmail.com.

01-19

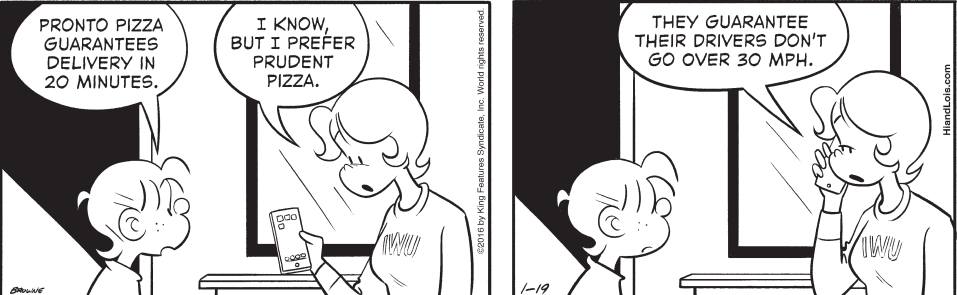
NON SEQUITUR by Wiley



BLONDIE by Dean Young and John Marshall



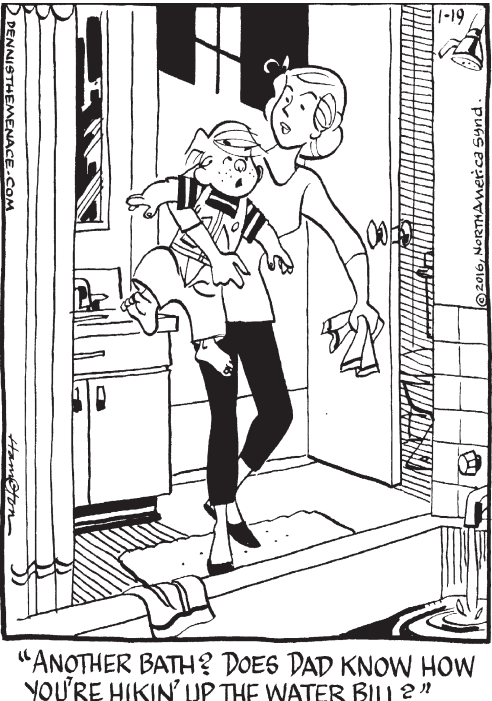
HI & LOIS by Chance Browne



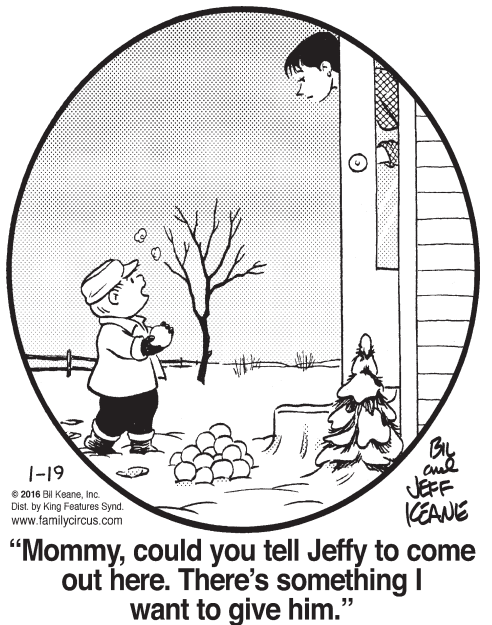
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE by Chris Browne



DENNIS THE MENACE by Hank Ketcham



THE FAMILY CIRCUS by Bil Keane



JUMBLE

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

MOCEA

TUCEA

SKROEH

TREIMH

Answer here:  (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: ENVOY PROXY FEISTY FRIGID  
Answer: The repairman was enjoying his dinner with all the — FIXIN'S

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

You both have similar skills. I think you'd enjoy playing each other.

How about it?

Ace told me you have a great serve.

WHEN HE PAIRED THE TWO PLAYERS, THE TENNIS PRO WAS A —

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

Is recovery from foot drop possible?

Dear Dr. Roach: I am a 64-year-old woman. I have been an avid exerciser and runner since 1980. I am in excellent health and take no medications, except for a low-dose rheumatoid arthritis medication, methotrexate.

Over a month ago, I developed a throbbing pain that radiated down the left side of my leg, the top of my foot and my big toe. The left side of my leg was numb down to my big toe. Then I noticed the foot drop. An MRI and X-ray showed that my back is in excellent shape, and a rehab doctor said the pain is not back-related.

The pain continued for weeks. I could not sleep. Finally, doctors determined that it must be a nerve problem. I was put on painkillers so I can sleep. I am now scheduled for a nerve study with a neurologist. What will this study do for my "foot drop"? Running is not only exercise

DR. KEITH ROACH TO YOUR GOOD HEALTH

for me, but a social thing. The training and racing with friends is a big part of my life. I continue to walk, weight-train and stretch. Not having control over this situation is trying and frustrating. In your experience has anyone overcome "foot drop"? — D.F.

Foot drop is caused by damage to a nerve. This damage can occur at many sites, including the back, which is why the MRI was important to get. The area of numbness you describe and the foot drop itself suggest that the peroneal nerve is being compressed, which most commonly happens where the nerve wraps around the fibula, the smaller of the two leg bones. If that is the case — which can be supported by the nerve studies (electromyography, or

EMG, and nerve conduction velocity) — then your doctor will recommend ways to reduce pressure on the nerve and likely will recommend a splint to keep the foot from dropping.

The prognosis depends on how much weakness you have. If there is no muscle activity at all, it is unlikely to recover; whereas if there is some strength, muscle function is likely to recover.

Dear Dr. Roach: Your recent column on long-term use of antibiotics concerns me, as I have been on a 50-mg daily dose of minocycline for almost a year, per my dermatologist, after trying topical steroids and erythromycin for several years. My condition is recurring scalp acne. The minocycline does work, but my questions about long-term use were met with indifference by my primary care doctor. — J.D.

I received several comments on the column from a woman with unexplained fevers for seven years on long-term broad-spectrum antibiotics, and I was concerned more about the possibility that a serious condition could be missed than about the long-term effects of the antibiotics, even though that is important, too.

One woman wrote in that she had kidney cancer, not an infection, and several readers wrote in with stories of intestinal abscesses finally being found after weeks or months.

In your case, you are using a relatively safe drug, minocycline, for a specific purpose.

There always are concerns with long-term antibiotic use, including development of resistance, but there is extensive experience using low-dose minocycline long-term for acne, and it is generally considered to be safe.

Another letter arrived from the Society of Finessers, complaining that finesses never win in my columns.

"Dear Sir: We must again protest your contempt for the finesse, an honorable technique that succeeds fully half the time — except in your deals."

The society used to accuse me of "disdain" for finesses; now it's "contempt." They won't like today's deal. At four spades South took the ace of hearts, drew trumps and let the queen of clubs ride. East won and shifted to a diamond: five, jack. West exited with a club and scored two more diamonds for down one.

opens one heart, you respond one spade and he bids two diamonds. The opponents pass. What do you say?

ANSWER: The simplest and most practical answer is sometimes best. Bid 3NT. Based on what you know, you can place the contract. You have no reason to bid three clubs: When your club holding is so stout, you aren't interested in hearing partner show belated spade support.

South dealer  
Both sides vulnerable

NORTH	EAST
♠ K 10 8 3	♠ 6 4
♥ A 7	♥ 10 9 5 3
♦ 8 4 2	♦ 9 7 6 3
♣ A 10 8 3	♣ K 7 2

WEST	SOUTH
♠ 7 2	♠ A Q J 9 5
♥ K Q J 8 4 2	♥ 6
♦ A Q J	♦ K 10 5
♣ 6 4	♣ Q J 9 5

South 1 ♠  
West 2 ♥  
North 3 ♠  
East Pass

Opening lead — ♥ K

The Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS

1 Prayer leader of Islam

5 Roman Polanski film

9 Egg white

14 Nothing in Granada

15 Stole or cloak

16 Two below par

17 Diner employees

20 Way from a man's heart

21 Chinese cooker

22 Woman with a habit

23 "Pursuit of the Graf"

27 Until now

32 "The X-Files" extras

33 Connery and Penn

35 Monica of tennis

36 Develop gradually

38 Future atty.'s exam

39 Petty criminals

43 Roll-call answer

44 Taxing

45 Author Asimov

47 Secluded valleys

48 Tumor: suff.

51 Pound

53 Carbon black

54 Tenth of MXX

55 Really big laugh

57 Girder

59 Young quahogs

66 Nintendo's hero

67 Leer lasciviously

68 Condo

69 Negatively charged atom

DOWN

2 Nuts

3 Elephant rider

4 Embellishes

5 Shopping spot

6 Tenth of a score

7 Commit a miscue

8 Expel from the dumps

9 Tropical lizards

10 Vietnamese man

11 Heretofore

12 Class

13 Hi-graphics

18 Dangling ornament

19 Go bad

24 Green sauce

25 At the feeding trough

26 Paint choices

28 Birthplace of Apollo

29 What's more

30 Shipbuilding wood

31 Guessed figs.

34 Multi-speaker system

36 Flash of reflected light

37 Low-budget prefix

39 -Tzu

40 Flat-topped formation

41 Composer

42 Awkwardly simple and provincial

46 Sri Lanka, once

48 Indian and Arctic

49 Indiana tribe

50 Plans on

52 Parisian street

56 Lumber flaw

58 Melancholy

59 "Little Women" author's initials

60 Author McEwan

61 Corn or pod opener?

62 Uncle in the Yucatan

63 The mind's I?

64 Calculator key abbr.

65 E or G, e.g.

Visit: ADailyCrossword.com

1/19

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved

ARTURO PST PIER

LESSOR ITE EASE

ICANTDANCE GMAN

CADLOWELL GLUT

EPIC ANA DYE

ILIKEIKE GIG

TRIEMERIN EDA

REDCAP LINNET

AMO DEGP ERIDOT

MONILOVEYOU

TINTEA ESME

LIMN ZAGREB HAP

ACID I WALKALONE

MENUPAN EDERLE

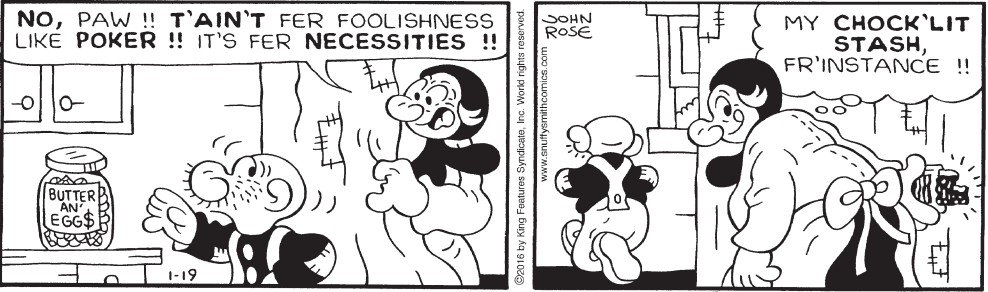
ADDS SYS DENNYS

1-18

BEETLE BAILEY by Mort Walker



SNUFFY SMITH by Fred Lasswell



Conceptis Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved

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

Difficulty Level ★