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 scrgrams@gmail.com.

BEIRB

CINEM

CCHITE

RUSPRE

MMA BUT IGN'T THIS A VIOLATION LET ME OF MY FIRST AMENDMENT DEAH RIGHTS?

NON SEQUITUR by Wiley

EXCUSE ME



BLONDIE by Dean Young and John Marshall

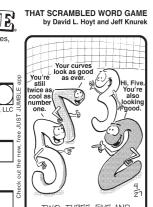






DENNIS THE MENACE by Hank Ketcham



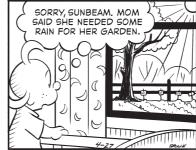


TWO, THREE, FIVE AND SEVEN WILL ALWAYS BE . Now arrange the circled letters suggested by the above cartoon

Jumbles: HENCE MOGUL ODDEST PARDON The male college cheerleaders' favorite meal consisted of - "RAH-MEN" NOODLES







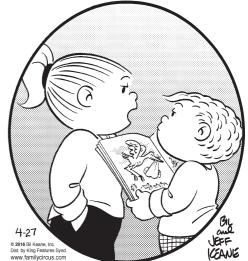
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE by Chris Browne







THE FAMILY CIRCUS by Bil Keane



"You know babies don't come by storks, Jeffy. They get delivered by drones.'

The role of steroids in controlling gout

Dear Dr. Roach: Our 44- DR. KEITH ROACH year-old son was diagnosed with gout 10 years ago. He was given different medications to help with the pain. Several of the meds were steroids. He seems to have this condition under control, somewhat. However, one year ago, he started to experience a different kind of pain in his hips. After a visit with an orthopedic surgeon, he was diagnosed with avascular necrosis, a lack of blood flow to his hips. Could the avascular necrosis be a result of the medication he took for the gout? The surgeon does not want to do hip replacement due to his young age, and is suggesting our son use ibuprofen to help with the pain in his hips. Is there something that might help our son overcome this

Gout is caused by the depo-

including as kidney stones

TO YOUR GOOD HEALTH

or in the soft tissue of skin and the ear. However, it's most common as a severe joint inflammation. Steroids sometimes are

used for acute gout, but rarely are they used long term because of their multiple risks, including avascular necrosis, the death of bone tissue caused by poor blood flow. Other causes for AVN include alcohol use, sickle cell disease and Gaucher disease. Unless your son has one of these other causes, it's likely that the steroids had a primary role in his development of AVN. This is a shame, since nonoperative therapy. there usually is effective treatment for gout that is much less risky than steroids.

The goal of treatment for sition of uric acid into joints AVN is to relieve symptoms recently have been diagnosed or other areas of the body, while avoiding surgery for as with osteoporosis. My left hip

40

15

18

is likely to help, but only about 20 percent of people get good results with pain management, combined with activities as tolerated, including the use of crutches if necessary. Although there is some promising data on the use of treatments such as hyperbaric oxygen and alendronate (Fosamax) in AVN, the evidence is not yet strong enough for me to recommend either.

As far as surgical treatment goes, there are many types, ranging from fairly limited surgery to complete hip replacement. Only his orthopedic surgeon can make the determination of which is best for him, and the timing depends on his response to

Dear Dr. Roach: I read your recent column regarding Fosamax. I'm 55, female and

16

42

60 61

4/27

long as is practical. Ibuprofen was at the -2.5 threshold for the diagnosis. My primarycare physician and gynecologist both are recommending Fosamax. With so much confusing information about this drug, I am questioning taking it. What is the alternative to taking Fosamax? Is there anything else I can do to increase my bone mass? Would you advise one of your family members to take Fosamax?

> If there are no other treatable causes, such as low vitamin D or high parathyroid hormone levels, then I think Fosamax or another bisphosphonate is a good choice. There are others, but Fosamax has been well-studied. The recent and the early play. West had the K-Q of spades, so East needed both minorcritical column I wrote was about atypical femur fractures in women taking Fosamax and other similar medications for longer than three to five years without any re-evaluation of whether it is still needed.

Bridge by Frank Stewart

How's your memory?

One of my club's septuagenarians says that when you get old, three things occur: Your memory goes ... and he can't recall the other two.

At four hearts, South ruffed the third spade and drew trumps; West threw a club. South next led a diamond to dummy's queen, and East took the king and led another spade. South ruffed again, led a diamond to the ace and returned a club to his queen, but East still got the king. Down one.

DOUBLETON

It seems South forgot the bidding suit kings for his opening bid. And once East showed three trumps, he had to have a singleton or doubleton king in a minor.

After South draws trumps, he plays a low diamond from both hands. East wins and forces with a spade, and South then leads a diamond to the ace. When the king falls, South pitches a club on the queen and takes the club finesse.

If East had K-x-x in diamonds, South could lead a club to the queen, knowing East had K-x.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ 8 7 6 ♡ K Q ♦ A Q 6 5 2 ♣ J 8 3. Neither side willnesslike. The dealer at your right dealer, at your right,

opens one spade. What do you say?

ANSWER: Unless you were absent when fear was doled out, pass. To overcall two diamonds with a broken five-card suit and a ton of losers courts disaster. Your chance of gain is nebulous: Game in diamonds is far away, and even buying the contract at a partscore is uncertain. Moreover, you can't be sure you want a diamond lead.

East dealer Both sides vulnerable

> **NORTH ♠**876 $\heartsuit KQ$ ♦ A Q 652

WEST EAST **♦ 10 9 7 3** ♦ K J **♣** K 9 4 **4** 10 7 6 2

SOUTH ♠ 10 5 ♥ AJ 10 9 7 6 ♦ 84 ♣ A Q 5

East South West North 2 🗘 2 🌲 All Pass

Opening lead — ♠ K

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The Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- 1 Start of a quote by
- Phil McGraw 7 Romaine
- 10 Ms. from Cadiz
- 14 Former Yankee catcher Howard
- Rap-sheet letters 16
- Piggies 17 Made a home
- 18 Hoity-toity 20 North American rail
- 21 Part 2 of quote
- 23 Smallest of change Early movie studio 25
- letters First of a series
- Occurring in spells 29
- Withstood stress Rehan and
- Huxtable 38 Brit. quartermaster
- 39 Columnists' pg. Part 3 of quote 40
- 42 Farm structure 43 Legal thing
- Family group 44 Capital in the 45
- Rockies 47 Margarita ingredient
- 50 Comes together 51 Single gaming cube
- 52 fixe Part 4 of quote 54
- 59 Domesticated ox
- Affected 63
- - 68 Sickle-cell Crocodile cousin 69 Knock down, in Kett of old comics German pronoun London

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved

E G R E T

TROVE

|C|H|||T||C||H||A||T|

LAMESA

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|G|L|I|T|C|H|E|

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WHELK

COREY

WITCHHAZEL

ΑE

N|A|R|I|S A|M|I|C|O

|R|E|L|A|N|D|

SHILOH

N C

|R|||O

B A K U

CHER

N E H

55

Visit: ADailyCrossword.com 70 Green-lights 71 End of quote

DOWN

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ORE

| | | C | E

ERIE

B|L|U|N|T|S

L

N E A T

U|T|A|H

|H| I

S

SWITCHBACK

- 1 Hankerings Muffin topper 3 CCCP, to us Fastened together
- v. Wade Not from either side Day trader's option Acceptable
- Political satirist Mort 10 Very drunk Posh Beverly Hills street
- 12 Mallard's cousin 13 Like an unswept hearth
- 19 Frosh residences PMs 22 24 Water in the Seine
- 26 Scrub 27 Long strider 28 U.S. leaders 30 Former golfer

Stewart

31 Big fuss 32 King Ibn

64 65

68

- 33 Dot on a map Big name in
- beer Carpet feature
- Notes of scales More inclined to 42
- sternutation Ex-Yankee third baseman Bover
- 46 Linguistics suffix 48 Feathers in zoology 49 Round fig.
- 53 Joltless joe 54 USA part 55 Pro __ (in
- proportion) Singing group 57 Dang!
- Old English letters 58 60 Television award "Charles in Charge"
- star Two-toed sloth "Wheel of Fortune" purchase

Scrabble Solution

heard #3.054, SCRABBLE transport of the design of the design of the design of the design of the following the control of the c									
12	ZZ JATOT			E 120-160	PAR SCOR				
83	CK4=	AA T	E C3	ᄓᄓ	C³ O¹				
99	CK3= 6	RA [₁∃	₽Į (Ps	E-J R-J	₽V				
25	CK 5 = e	NAR SQ	ŀΑ	E¹ H¹	D ₂				
- II	CK1=	AA	C³ H¢	E ^j N ^j	ŀΑ ŀΤ				
SCKABBLE GRAMMS SOLUTION									

MOTHOS SMAID HIRAY	vulnerable. The
BEETLE BAILEY	by Mort Walker
WIFE IS / SC	S SHE DUND AD?



SNUFFY SMITH by Fred Lasswell





Conceptis Sudoku

	9	3				6	7	
2			5		9			3
2 4 3			3		7			8
3			9		5			1
	4	5	2			3	9	7
			6					4
			1					9
7			8		2			6
	1	6				8	3	
Difficulty Level ★★★ 4/2								4/27

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

1	8	7	6	5	3	4	9	2
5	2	3	7	9	4	8	1	6
6	4	9	8	1	2	5	7	3
3	7	8	4	6	1	9	2	5
9	1	5	3	2	8	7	6	4
2	6	4	9	7	5	3	8	1
8	5	6	2	3	7	1	4	9
4	9	1	5	8	6	2	3	7
7	3	2	1	4	9	6	5	8
Difficu	Difficulty Level ★★ 4/26							

Difficulty Level ★★★

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