

### SCRABBLE GRAMS

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E1 E1 O1 U1 X8 S1 C3 RACK 1  
 A1 O1 U1 L1 T1 B3 F4 1st Letter Double RACK 2  
 A1 I1 O1 C3 N1 N1 C3 RACK 3  
 A1 I1 T1 R1 S1 P3 D2 Triple Word Score RACK 4

PAR SCORE 150-160  
 BEST SCORE 221  
 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.

Answer below  
 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.

### 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



### JUMBLE

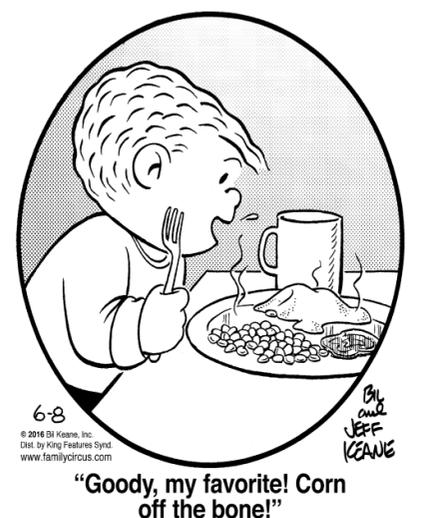
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ZALEG  
 USEIS  
 QIYETU  
 FARLVO

Ans. here:     (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: PITCH VAGUE RADIUS INDUCT  
 Answer: When the baker made a wedding cake for his daughter, he was — "TIERING" UP

### THE FAMILY CIRCUS by Bill Keane



## Nonmedical aid in eczema treatment

**Dear Dr. Roach:** I have very bad eczema on both of my feet. I have been to several skin doctors and my family doctor, but none knows what the cause is. I find myself being prescribed a different cream each time, but none seems to help. I am using Cetaphil and clobetasol.

Is the cause unknown? Is it common in people my age (I am 84)? Are there any home treatments to relieve the itching and burning? — L.F.

**DR. KEITH ROACH**  
TO YOUR GOOD HEALTH

developing eczema. First-line treatment includes skin moisturizers and topical steroids, both of which you are using. Although there are other prescription treatments, such as tacrolimus cream, you asked me about home remedies.

Avoiding damage to the skin is very important. This includes being careful not to overbathe or bathe in too-hot water and avoiding dry environments and harsh chemicals, such as detergents or solvents on the skin. Emotional stress and anxiety are detrimental for eczema; behavioral treatments to help deal with stress can be very helpful when dealing with eczema.

People with eczema are more likely to have allergic skin responses, so I recommend using fragrance-free

and dye-free products as much as possible. I would be cautious with your moisturizers and use thicker creams rather than lighter lotions.

If itching is a significant problem, I would consider an antihistamine like Zyrtec, Claritin or Allegra. Changing diet can be helpful for some.

**Dear Dr. Roach:** My left hip bothered me, and I told my doctor. He did an X-ray, then said I have a hip fracture. He sent me for an MRI. They read it and also said I had a hip fracture, and sent me to the orthopedic surgeon. The surgeon redid the X-rays and looked at the MRI scan, and told me I do not have a fracture. He found that my left was 3/4 inch shorter than the right. He prescribed an insert into my left shoe, and I had no more pain. — L.L.

It is certain that some people have differences in the

lengths of their legs and that sometimes this leads to symptoms. A relatively small difference such as yours usually is treated with a shoe or a shoe insert, usually by an orthopedic surgeon, podiatrist or physical therapist. Often this results in improvement of the symptoms.

What is surprising about your story is the initial findings of the X-ray and MRI scan. X-ray results can be ambiguous, but the MRI is reported to have 100 percent sensitivity (that is to say, it shouldn't miss a case). One study showed that experienced radiologists have 100 percent specificity in reading a fracture, meaning there always is a fracture when they say there is, but less-experienced radiologists have "only" a 93 percent specificity. It appears to me that your orthopedic surgeon was right and your radiologist wrong, since your symptoms got better.

### Bridge

by Frank Stewart

## A dynamite play

When I watched today's deal in my club's penny game, East was Grapefruit. If he took a personality test, the results would come back negative. He berates his partners without mercy.

Against four spades, West led his singleton heart, and Grapefruit took the ace and returned the four. West ruffed and led a club: ace, eight, four. Down one looked certain — the defense still had the A-K of trumps — but South came to the ace of diamonds and led the jack of hearts. To West, it appeared that South aimed to discard dummy's "losing" club, so West ruffed low.

heart, you bid one spade and he jumps to three hearts. What do you say?

**ANSWER:** Partner's second-round jump in his own suit is invitational to game, not forcing. Still, slam is possible: He could hold 3, A J 10 7 6 3, A 2, J 9 6 4. Cue-bid four clubs, suggesting the ace, slam interest and, by inference, heart support. If you had clubs, you would bid 3NT.

North dealer  
N-S vulnerable

### OVERRUFFS

Dummy overruffed and led a trump. The king and ace fell together. South made his game, and Grapefruit announced that if West's brains were dynamite, he couldn't blow his nose. "You'd have done the same thing."

West bristled.

Grapefruit told the kibitzers that West should use a glue stick instead of ChapStick.

I sympathize with West. South made a good deceptive play that would have nailed many Wests.

<b>NORTH</b>	<b>EAST</b>
♠ Q 10 6 2	♠ K
♥ K Q	♥ A 10 9 8 5 4
♦ K Q J 7 3	♦ 8 5
♣ A 5	♣ Q 10 9 8

<b>WEST</b>	<b>EAST</b>
♠ A 7 4	♠ K
♥ 2	♥ A 10 9 8 5 4
♦ 10 9 6 2	♦ 8 5
♣ J 7 6 3 2	♣ Q 10 9 8

<b>SOUTH</b>	<b>WEST</b>
♠ J 9 8 5 3	♠ K
♥ J 7 6 3	♥ A 10 9 8 5 4
♦ A 4	♦ 8 5
♣ K 4	♣ Q 10 9 8

North 1♦ East 1♥ South 1♠ West Pass  
 3♠ Pass 4♠ All Pass

Opening lead — ♥ 2

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### The Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS**
- Idaho capital
  - Birthstones
  - Mozart's "\_\_\_ fan tute"
  - Both/either conjunction
  - In a short time
  - Some Spanish
  - Hebrew letter
  - Row of stores
  - Start of a quote by Gene Fowler
  - Red flag command
  - Sign of victory
  - Part of AT&T
  - Have outstanding debts
  - Film featuring Brando as Napoleon
  - Part 2 of quote
  - Part 3 of quote
  - "Ninotchka" filmmaker Lubitsch
  - Goddess of the dawn
  - Epic poem
  - Part 4 of quote
  - Part 5 of quote
  - Certain literary criticism
  - Marseille's neighbor
  - Suffix for approximations
  - At the age of: L.
  - Taj Mahal site
  - End of quote
  - Saintly celebrations
  - Pampas lasso

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15				16			
17					18				19			
20					21							
22					23				24			
25					26				27			
28					29				30			
31	32	33			34	35			36			
37					38				39	40		
41					42				43			
44			45	46					47			
48					49	50			51	52	53	54
55	56				57				58			
59					60				61			
62					63				64			
65					66				67			

- Visit: [ADailyCrossword.com](http://ADailyCrossword.com)
- 61 Korea/China border river
- 62 River of Thebes
- 63 Lake Geneva spa
- 64 Title for M. Clouseau
- 65 Fed's Greenspan
- 66 Containing iron: pref.

**Yesterday's Puzzle Solved**

CAT	OARS	SMAN	BAH
ALA	PRALINE	ELI	
DIXIE	CHICKS	ALL	
DEION	MALT	COT	
ONSTAGE	HEIGHTS		
AIMER	SNUB		
TIM	RARER	GLOAT	
AREA	NICER	PYLE	
RANUP	EASED	SEX	
ADES	PEARS		
ATTIRES	EDUARDO		
BOW	REAR	GREEN	
AGO	INDI	GIRLS	
BAR	ETAGERE	UTE	
ASK	ROTATED	NAT	

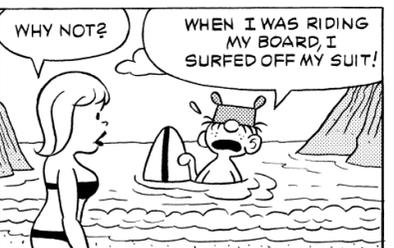
- DOWN**
- \_\_\_ of Caracalla
  - Start
  - Twin Falls state
  - Soft drinks
  - Goddess of discord
  - Quebec peninsula
  - \_\_\_ nous (confidentially)
  - Gulf of the Celebes Sea
  - Brandy balloon
  - Globular clouds
  - Son of Judah
  - Realtor's sign
  - Part of NY's S.I.
  - Edgar Allan and others
  - Opposite of sans
  - Moisten
  - Prescribed amount
  - Chum up
  - Israeli airline
  - Whirlpool
  - Pick a field?
  - Therefore: L.
  - Dundee dagger
  - Dandy girl
  - Dandy
  - Sundial three
  - Mild cathartic
  - Spiny anteater
  - The "Censor" of Rome
  - Keeps occupied "\_\_\_ It Romantic?"
  - Sanctuaries
  - "Barnaby Jones" star Buddy
  - Egg white
  - Fix roads
  - Hersey's bell town
  - Break from a habit
  - March and Roach
  - Missing part of a Manx
  - Not kosher
  - Murphy Brown's TV show

### Scrabble Solution

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### BEETLE BAILEY by Mort Walker



### SNUFFY SMITH by Fred Lasswell



### Conceptis Sudoku

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

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**

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