

SCRABBLEGRAMS

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E1E1T1N1G2R1D2

RACK 1

E1I1O1G2L1B3N1

RACK 2

A1U1G3M3H4R1B3

RACK 3

A1E1I1B3X3L1F4

RACK 4

PAR SCORE 155-165

FOUR RACK TOTAL

BEST SCORE 225

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.

07-18

NON SEQUITUR by Wiley

I'll see your free will and raise you political conventions

DANG...

How paradise was really lost

HEY, BOSS, WHAT'S YOUR SIGN? BUMSTEAD, I DON'T PAY YOU TO SIT AROUND READING HOROSCOPES!

DO YOU REALIZE HOW MUCH YOU COST THE COMPANY BY GOOFING OFF?!

HMMM... I'M GUESSING VIRGO

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BLONDIE by Dean Young and John Marshall

HEY, BOSS, WHAT'S YOUR SIGN? BUMSTEAD, I DON'T PAY YOU TO SIT AROUND READING HOROSCOPES!

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HI & LOIS by Chance Browne

ARE YOU GOING TO MISS ME WHEN I GO TO COLLEGE?

OF COURSE.

WELL, AME

BE HONEST.

OK. I WON'T MISS THE DIRTY LAUNDRY, THE MESSY ROOM, THE LOUD MUSIC.

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HAGAR THE HORRIBLE by Chris Browne

THIS MAGIC SHIELD WILL SAVE YOUR LIFE 98% OF THE TIME!

WHAT ABOUT THE OTHER 2%?

FOR THAT WE OFFER A FULL REFUND!

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DENNIS THE MENACE by Hank Ketcham

YOU MUST BE THIS TALL TO RIDE

"ME AN' HIM ARE RIDIN' TOGETHER!"

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THE FAMILY CIRCUS by Bil Keane

... and, Dolly, you can play with my robot and I'll let Jeffy use my skateboard, and, PJ, you can ...

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JUMBLE

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

NNOKW

INOON

IKWEDC

ONISCA

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Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app

THE WOODPECKER HOPED THE TREE WOULD BE HOME FOR A LONG TIME.

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

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: MUSTY MOVIE WRITER FACADE
Answer: The archer's new cologne was — "ARROW-MATIC"

Rheumatoid arthritis a variable disease

Dear Dr. Roach: I am 69 years old and being treated for rheumatoid arthritis with weekly self-injections of methotrexate. Should I expect these injections to reduce or minimize the pain in my hands, fingers and shoulders? There seem to be constant flare-ups in my fingers. In fact, I am seeing a hand specialist in a couple of weeks for what I suspect is trigger finger in two fingers on my dominant hand. I like to play golf; I am in good health, but it may be that RA takes me away from golf unless the hand specialist can help. — H.B.

Rheumatoid arthritis is a common and variable disease of the joints, but it also can affect multiple systems. RA is a condition I take very seriously indeed. I always refer patients to a rheumatologist who is experienced in its treatment, for several reasons: Poorly treated RA can lead to

DR. KEITH ROACH TO YOUR GOOD HEALTH

severe and irreversible joint changes. It also may have life-threatening complications in the heart, lungs and other organs.

The new treatments for RA are very powerful drugs that, used appropriately, can improve quality of life dramatically for people with RA, but they have the potential for serious side effects. Therefore, they should be prescribed only by those very familiar with their use. Methotrexate, for example, is commonly used as cancer chemotherapy. It has found use in several autoimmune diseases at lower doses, but I am not familiar enough to comfortably prescribe it (or many other RA drugs), since I don't do so frequently. Used skillfully, though, it should indeed reduce flares.

Trigger finger is caused

by the tendons in the hands becoming stuck in the pulley system of the fingers (each finger has several pulleys keeping its tendons in place). Trigger finger is common in the general population, but even more so in those with RA, as well as those with diabetes. The hand surgeon may perform an injection of steroids as an anti-inflammatory.

Maintaining your activities and pleasures is a major goal of RA treatment. Being seen early in the course of the disease by an expert gives you the best chance for this.

Dear Dr. Roach: My wife (52 years old) is frustrated in her quest to lose weight, and has started taking SR9009. I am very worried for her because it is marked "not for human consumption," although apparently it is a promising new research drug. What are the dangers, and what are her risks? — F.M.

I wrote the scientist who developed the drug. He kindly wrote back and said that SR9009 was never intended to be used in humans, it has a chemical structure that is likely to be toxic in humans, and it was developed not as a potential drug, but as a tool to see whether it might be useful to try to develop compounds that could be used in humans.

It wasn't even studied in animals for toxicity, as it was never intended to be a drug.

Fortunately, it is not absorbed at all when taking it by mouth, so your wife is at least not being poisoned by it.

At best, she is wasting her money on a useless drug. The manufacturer should not be promoting this for use in humans.

If she is going to use supplements, she should use those that have been well-studied.

Bridge by Frank Stewart

Terms of agreement

"One thing I've learned playing bridge with my husband," a reader writes: "You don't have to agree with a man as long as you admit he's right. "North-South got to 3NT," my fan writes. "I was East, and my husband led a club. Declarer misguessed by playing the ten from dummy, and my jack covered. He played low. I returned a club to the king and ace, and declarer won the third club as I threw a heart.

"South next led a heart to dummy and returned a diamond to his king. On the next diamond, my husband's queen and my ace clashed, and South made an overtrick."

THIRD CLUB

"My husband said I should have discarded my ace of diamonds on the third club. His queen would become an entry to his good clubs. I had to admit he was right, but I didn't agree that I should have found such a bizarre play."

To discard the ace of South's long suit might have blown a trick — vital at duplicate. Still, I would have tried it. I wouldn't have passed up a chance for a once-in-a-lifetime play.

ANSWER: South in today's deal opened one diamond. No doubt his range for a 1NT opening bid was 15 to 17 points, as it is for many duplicate players. Even so, a case existed for downgrading the hand. It has only one ace, no long suit to serve as a source of tricks and no promising spot cards. Personally, I might have opened 1NT even with a 15-to-17 range.

South dealer
Both sides vulnerable

NORTH
♠ J 6 5
♥ A Q
♦ J 9 8 7 6
♣ 10 3 2

WEST
♠ 10 9 8 2
♥ 10 9
♦ Q 10
♣ A 9 6 5 4

EAST
♠ K 7 4
♥ 8 7 6 5 3 2
♦ A 3
♣ J 7

SOUTH
♠ A Q 3
♥ K J 4
♦ K 5 4 2
♣ K Q 8

South 1 ♦
2 NT

West Pass
Pass

North 2 ♦
3 NT

East Pass
All Pass

Opening lead — ♣ 5

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The Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS

- 1 Got wind (of)
- 6 Dept. of Labor dept.
- 10 Half of DII
- 14 Cool lodgings?
- 15 Trompe l'__
- 16 Raw minerals
- 17 Access to plumbing
- 19 Architect Pei's first name
- 20 Novelist Kesey
- 21 Fem.'s opposite
- 22 "American Gigolo" star
- 24 Pollen-bearing organ
- 26 Translucent gem
- 28 Contemptuous exclamation
- 31 Small hairless caterpillar
- 33 Full-house letters
- 34 "SportsCenter" stn.
- 37 "Why __ Thou forsaken me?"
- 38 Catchall check-box
- 40 Refer to briefly
- 42 Nuclear reactions
- 44 Totally confused
- 45 Knock senseless
- 47 Not in
- 48 Neg. opposite
- 49 Police cruiser
- 52 Bridge expert
- 53 Culbertson
- 54 Comic Jay
- 54 Speaks pompously
- 58 Soleil Moon __
- 60 Discharge from a position

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

68 69 70

71 72 73

Visit: [ADailyCrossword.com](#)

7/18

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

ALIS MUTER SNAP
BICE ISOLATORA
BREAKS NEW GROUND
RESLOT DESERVES
TEPID SOMME
SAREMAA NAILUP
AMT KERNS PELLA
LIIDENOM RENDI
ICONS DENIM CAN
CONDOS SINECURE
ZELIG ASSAI
TEETOTUM TARSAL
AMBASSADOR SHIPS
KIRI OVINE ONEA
ELALL NAVALPEST

7-17

- 62 Narrow inlet
- 63 Greek portico
- 65 Casual criminal
- 68 Old you
- 69 Work for
- 70 Skater Sonja
- 71 Muslim unit of weight
- 72 Legis. meeting
- 73 Mexican sayonara

DOWN

- 1 Rubes
- 2 Marsh bird
- 3 Model Stewart
- 4 Tiff
- 5 Megalithic tomb
- 6 Klutz's comment
- 7 Manatees
- 8 __ jacet
- 9 Sour brew
- 10 Rope fiber
- 11 1982 horror anthology film
- 12 August-born, usually
- 13 Mag
- 18 Panza of "Don Quixote"
- 23 Roper and Lincoln
- 25 Chop finely
- 27 Unspecified large amount
- 29 Sporting sphere
- 30 Dobbin-ish
- 32 "Weird" family band
- 34 Day's march
- 35 Yuccalike plant
- 36 Move furtively
- 39 Ornamental coronet
- 41 By accident, old-style
- 43 Open, as wine
- 46 Double-value deals
- 50 Pee Wee and Della
- 51 Singer Franklin
- 55 Singer Lopez
- 56 MacDonald's refrain
- 57 Strongboxes
- 59 Julia of "One from the Heart"
- 61 Holm and McKellen
- 63 Orch. section
- 64 However, briefly
- 66 Dundee negative
- 67 Third person past contraction

Scrabble Solution

PAR SCORE 155-165

TOTAL 225

RACK 4 = 77

RACK 3 = 80

RACK 2 = 60

RACK 1 = 8

SOLUTION

SCRABBLE G R A M S

BEETLE BAILEY by Mort Walker

BUMP BUMP BUMP

IF I FELL DOWN THAT HILL, IT WOULD SOUND LIKE CRACK! CRACK! CRACK!

GREG WALKER 7-18

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SNUFFY SMITH by Fred Lasswell

WE HEARD YA BOUGHT A TRUCK, HORACE !!

YEAH, WHY AIN'TCHA DRIVIN' IT ?

T'AIN'T REGISTERED YET !!

AN' I DON'T WANNA GIT IT DIRTY, OR SPEND MONEY FER GAS, OR WEAR OUT TH' TIRES, OR RUN UP TH' MILEAGE, OR...

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Conceptis Sudoku

9 2 7 1

4 9 7

7 4 3 5

3 5 8 1

6 1 7 9

8 6

5 3 6 2

6 7 4 9

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Difficulty Level ★

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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

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

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Difficulty Level ★★ ★

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