

SCRABBLE®  
BRAND

G2R1A1M3S1

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E1I1G2T1M3F4N1

I1O1H4R1C3T1S1

A1O1Y4L1R1N1X8

E1I1I1G2T1N1H4

Double Word Score

RACK 1

RACK 2

RACK 3

1st Letter Triple

RACK 4

PAR SCORE 150-160  
BEST SCORE 217

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 scragsms@gmail.com.

Answer below

09-03

NON SEQUITUR by Wiley

MY POSITION IS TO KEEP AMERICAN JOBS FOR AMERICANS, SO I WILL INITIATE THE PROCESS OF...

JUST PASS THE SALT, DEAR

AT HOME WITH THE CANDIDATE

WILEY

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BLONDIE by Dean Young and John Marshall

BUMSTEAD, WHY ARE YOU DRESSED LIKE THAT?

FOR CASUAL FRIDAY, BOSS

TODAY IS THURSDAY BUMSTEAD!!

I KNOW, BOSS

BUT I'M PLANNING ON TAKING ONE OF MY VACATION DAYS TOMORROW

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HI & LOIS by Chance Browne

WHY DO YOU HAVE TO BE SO BOSSY?!

IT'S JUST MY NATURE.

THE SAME WAY YOU TEND TO BE THE BOSSEE.

HEY! I DON'T LIKE BEING BOSSED AROUND.

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HAGAR THE HORRIBLE by Chris Browne

SEE, LUCKY EDDIE? YOU BUY SOME DRINKS AND RIGHT AWAY YOU HAVE INSTANT FRIENDS!

THAT WAS NICE OF THAT DUMMY!

THE JERK MUST BE LOADED!

HA! I WONDER HOW MUCH THE FOOL PAID FOR THIS?!

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DENNIS THE MENACE by Hank Ketcham

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"I DON'T KNOW WHAT THIS IS, BUT IT NEEDS KETCHUP."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS by Bil Keane

9-3

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"Here you go, Dolly. Today's lunch is being delivered by 'Meals on Wheels.'"

JUMBLE

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

TYEPT

KUNJY

MASYDI

CUPENO

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Ewww!

HE WANTED TO GET THE SKUNK OUT OF THE GARAGE, BUT THE SKUNK —

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

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: BURLY STAND NOVICE POETIC  
Answer: People enjoy playing Jumble on a regular basis because it's — "PUN" TO SOLVE

Genetics responsible for reader's AMD

Dear Dr. Roach: When my daughter was pregnant, she was tested for blood abnormalities and was told she has factor V Leiden and PAI-1 4G/5G.

She suggested that I be tested, because with my firstborn I had an emergency C-section for hemorrhaging due to placenta abruptio, and with her I had pelvic thrombophlebitis.

I did go to a hematologist, who said he felt I should not be tested because at 65 I am no longer of child-bearing age and had no problems during any post-birth surgeries, and current hospital procedures would be certain to monitor for blood clots, etc.

Recently I went to the eye doctor and was diagnosed with wet age-related macular degeneration, as well as having mild cataracts. I think these concerns have to do with blood vessels bleeding behind the eye.

DR. KEITH ROACH  
TO YOUR GOOD HEALTH

I wonder if either of the two blood abnormalities contributes to the wet macular degeneration, which I understand is the worse of the two types and is far less common than the dry.

I was told not to take vitamins at this time, but I did buy some vitamins designed for the eyes to see if perhaps this will keep things status quo.

Can you please give me your thoughts on this? I am really disheartened about my vision concerns. — Anon.

Yours is a complex story with two main issues: Do you need to be tested for Factor V Leiden and PAI-1 4G/5G; and how should your macular degeneration be treated?

Both factor V Leiden and plasminogen activator inhibi-

tor 4G/5G are variants of normal genes, and their presence increases risk of abnormal blood clotting.

This is particularly the case in pregnancy. Given your daughter's genes and your history of blood clots in the pelvic veins, I think it's pretty likely that you have at least one of these conditions.

However, even if you do, the recommendation is clear that it should not be treated with an anticoagulant, so I agree with your hematologist that testing isn't necessary in your case.

How does macular degeneration fit in? Simplified, the abnormalities in the blood vessels behind the eye seem to have to do with genetic differences in the inflammatory pathways, particularly in a gene called complement factor H.

People with abnormalities in this gene are predisposed to inflammation in the eye.

Inflammation leads to high levels of a molecule called VEGF-A, which is responsible for causing the abnormal blood vessels.

Whether you have factor V Leiden or PAI-1 4G/5G shouldn't affect the progression or treatment of AMD.

Treatment of wet-type AMD usually consists of inhibitors to VEGF (a prescription medicine) and a particular regimen of antioxidant vitamins.

I don't know why your eye doctor isn't starting you on treatment. I suggest that you get a second opinion.

The booklet on macular degeneration explains this common eye ailment. Readers can order a copy by writing: Dr. Roach — No. 701, 628 Virginia Dr., Orlando, FL 32803. Enclose a check or money order (no cash) for \$4.75 U.S./\$6 Can. with the recipient's printed name and address. Please allow four weeks for delivery.

Bridge

by Frank Stewart

Not to worry

Cy the Cynic says that if you like to worry, you have more choices these days than ever before.

Today's declarer didn't worry quite enough at 3NT. When West led a spade, South was concerned about playing the jack from dummy: If East took the king, he might shift to clubs, and the defense might set up a few club tricks. So South took the ace of spades and went after the diamonds: He led low to his ace.

Alas, West discarded, and East had to get a diamond trick. When South conceded the fourth diamond later, East indeed shifted to a club: ten, queen. Another club forced out South's ace, and he could take only eight tricks.

FIRST SPADE

South was right to worry. After he (correctly) wins the first spade, he can lead a diamond and cover East's seven with the eight.

If West could win, South wouldn't mind; his club holding would be safe from attack. He would be sure of four diamonds, two hearts, a spade and a club, and would have time to set up a second spade for his ninth trick.

bids one spade. What do you say?

ANSWER: A bid of two hearts would promise a five-card or longer suit (or at least a suit strong enough to play opposite three-card support). A bid of 3NT might come to grief when you could make four hearts. The best call is a negative double, conventionally showing length in hearts. Discuss the convention with your partner.

South dealer  
Both sides vulnerable

NORTH

♠ A J

♥ A K 4 3

♦ 6 5 4 2

♣ J 5 2

WEST

♠ 10 8 7 5 3 2

♥ J 9 8 7

♦ None

♣ Q 9 6

EAST

♠ K 6

♥ Q 10

♦ Q 10 9 7

♣ K 8 7 4 3

SOUTH

♠ Q 9 4

♥ 6 5 2

♦ A K J 8 3

♣ A 10

South

1 ♦

1 NT

West

Pass

Pass

North

1 ♥

3 NT

East

Pass

All Pass

Opening lead — ♠ 5

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The Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS
- 1 Conditional conjunctions
  - 4 Part of OWN
  - 9 Hotel staffers
  - 14 Boar's mate
  - 15 Muslim scholars
  - 16 Actress MacDowell
  - 17 A day
  - 20 Sacked out
  - 21 Stagger
  - 22 PMs
  - 23 Muslim weight
  - 26 Dawn Chong and Carruth
  - 28 Tumor: suff.
  - 31 Seize suddenly
  - 33 One eighth of a fluid ounce
  - 37 Nastassia Kinski movie
  - 40 Mint family plant
  - 41 Approximate age
  - 44 End of a buck?
  - 45 Caked
  - 46 New Jersey Native Americans
  - 49 Sweetie
  - 50 Retirement agcy.
  - 51 Srta.'s neighbor
  - 53 Salinger character
  - 55 Writer LeShan
  - 58 Aircraft: pref.
  - 60 Japanese metropolis
  - 64 Kennedy change
  - 68 \_\_\_ cotta
  - 69 Atoll foundation
  - 70 Center of a hurricane

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

9/3

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved

ERGS PETS SKINS

REAP ATTRA PINUP

RAIL DUEL LENNY

AGE IS LIKE LOVE

TATTOO MAT RUB

ANY RCMP SCAMPI

ASTO STEAD ENOTS

CHOIR HAZELS

HORNET DELI BRA

EWE SEA EMCEED

ITCANNOT BEHID

MANIA TAXI DANE

INTEL EDEN AVER

ADORE SANG REDS

9-2

DOWN

- 1 Suffix for followers
- 2 Birds
- 3 Popeye's \_\_\_ Pea
- 4 Have it in for
- 5 Work at diligently
- 6 Striped shirt
- 7 Roman Eros
- 8 Rutger of "Blade Runner"
- 9 "Das Lied von der Erde" composer
- 10 "Wheel of Fortune" purchase
- 11 Bragi's wife
- 12 Soil
- 13 Legis. meeting
- 18 "Car Talk" broadcaster
- 19 Enjoy a book
- 24 Where Paris took Helen
- 25 Fall into disuse
- 27 Goldman's Wall Street partner
- 30 Tempt ending?
- 32 Flaxen-haired
- 34 Vouchers
- 35 Earl "Fatha" \_\_\_
- 36 One of the Gabors
- 38 Event before a golf tourney
- 39 Roast host
- 42 Distinctive periods
- 43 Violent disturbances
- 47 Dabble in
- 48 Util. bill
- 52 Standing
- 54 Opp. of WNW
- 55 Young news
- 56 \_\_\_ Bien Phu
- 57 Bushy 'do
- 59 Yoko's family
- 61 Super server
- 62 Largo and Longboat, e.g.
- 63 Cruising
- 65 Play about Capote
- 66 Singing syllable
- 67 \_\_\_ for the course

Scrabble Solution

PAR SCORE 150-160  
BEST SCORE 217

FOUR RACK TOTAL  
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WILEY

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BEETLE BAILEY by Mort Walker

LOOKING UPAT THOSE BILLIONS OF STARS MAKES YOU FEEL SMALL AND UNIMPORTANT, DOESN'T IT?

JUST A MINUTE

GOE+ MORT WALKER

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SNUFFY SMITH by Fred Lasswell

SHOULD WE GO ?

NAW !!

EMPOWERMENT SEMINAR TODAY ONLY

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LOOK UP THERE, SARGE

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Conceptis Sudoku

5 3 9

1 2 8

6 4 9 5

7 8 2

4 5 6

9 2 7 8

1 6 5

2 8 1

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9/03

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 7 9 5 4 1 2 8 3

5 3 1 8 2 6 7 9 4

2 8 4 3 7 9 5 1 6

7 6 8 9 5 4 1 3 2

9 4 2 6 1 3 8 5 7

3 1 5 2 8 7 4 6 9

1 2 3 7 6 8 9 4 5

4 9 7 1 3 5 6 2 8

8 5 6 4 9 2 3 7 1

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