

Difficulty Level ★

This is a logic-based number placement puz-

zle. The goal is to enter

a number, 1-9, in each

cell in which each row,

column and 3x3 region

must contain only one

instance of each numeral. The solution to

today's Sudoku puzzle

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

YOU'RE

WELCOME.

THEN IT GOT WEIRD

THAT'S BECAUSE

TODAY MY LIFE

BEGINS ANEW!

TODAY I'M "TED 2.0"! AND ALL BECAUSE OF THAT

ONE BEAUTIFUL WORD.

COLLEGE IS BASICALLY

FOUR YEARS OF FULLY-

FUNDED UNSUPERVISED

INDEPENDENT LIVING

IT WAS LOADED

CHERRIES AS BIG AS BOWLING BALLS

Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne

Sally Forth • Greg Howard

WELL, YOU'RE CHIPPER

Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott

MAYBE I'M

NOTCUTOUT

Blondie • Chic Young

I HAD A DREAM LAST NIGHT

THAT I WAS CLIMBING A GIANT HOT FUDGE SUNDAE

WELL.

THIS MORNING.

GOOD MORNING,

I CAN'T GEEM TO

GET MOTIVATED TO

STUDY ANYMORE.



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker





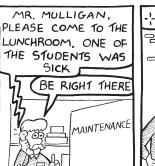
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters







Tod the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts









.PLUS IT'S A GREAT WAY TO

TOTALLY GROSS OUT HER BROTHER

Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott





Cryptoquip

TW F JFVQRLFCX MFUQXVXU

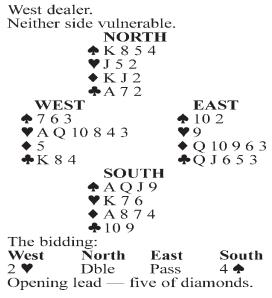
TR LHZCJXAXJN ATUXQ FVQ

KXQ, UXFQN W H UNHE

ZTMIA RFN IX'R KERIXO. Saturday's Cryptoquip: IF A WOODLAND DEITY HAD TO CHOOSE ONE PREFERRED DAY OF THE WEEK, WOULD IT PICK SATYR-DAY?

Bridge

is right.



Famous Hand

This deal occurred about a dozen years ago in the Cavendish Invitational, perhaps the strongest pair tournament in the world, and the only one held in the United States that awards substantial cash prizes to top finishers.

The hero of the deal was multi-world champion Jeff Meckstroth, who, with characteristic opportunism, took advantage of a couple of harmless-looking defensive slips by his opponents to bring in a seemingly hopeless four-spade contract.

Meckstroth was no doubt a bit surprised when dummy produced a balanced 12count for his takeout double of West's weak two-heart opening. Given the lie of the opposing hearts and diamonds, declarer appeared destined to go down one, losing two hearts, a diamond and a club.

Meckstroth played low from dummy on the opening diamond lead and won East's nine with the ace. The A-K-J of spades were cashed, East discarding a supposedly useless club on the third round. Meckstroth then led the innocent-looking heart six from his hand.

West gave this a hard look and decided to play low, no doubt fearing East might have the singleton king. When dummy's jack held, nothing appeared to have been lost, since West still had two heart tricks coming. But Meckstroth had a different

A low club was led from dummy, East winning with the jack. East's club return was covered by the king and ace, and dummy's third club was led to East's queen, on which Meckstroth discarded a heart! When East continued with his last club, Meckstroth again discarded a heart from his hand, and also one from dummy.

It was here that East's earlier club discard came back to haunt him. Left on lead with nothing but diamonds, he was forced to return one into dummy's K-J, and the "impossible" contract was home.

Family Circus • Bil Keane

"Sorry, Billy. Your skateboard has been upgraded to a bus.'

59 Adipose

DOWN

2 Old

1 Sprite

French

Arabia

areas

6 Literary

flavor

8 Pilfers

9 Bribe

of a

10 Gilligan's

unpaved

collection

7 Starbucks

5 On

wordplay 4 Capital of

coin

3 Bit of

tissue

11 Picks up

21 Plankton

22 Meadows

Fudd's

27 Spring

29 Withered

mister

37 America's

tenders

vampires

network

situation

39 Buffy, to

42 Concise

45 Tourna-

44 Regis'

30 Munich

32 Deserve

34 Use up

23 Thorn in

16 Born

20 Pout

the check

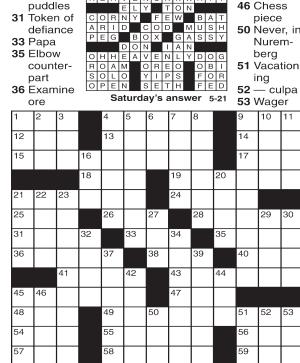
Crossword

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)	ACROSS	38 Affirma-
	1 Kreskin's	tive
	claim,	40 Blunder
l	briefly	41 Support
	4 Wanders	group?
~	9 Aware	43 Game
Ē	12 Boudreau	partici-
,	of	pant
	baseball	45 Sunday
-	13 Other-	meal
	wise	47 Science
1	14 Can.	work-
l	neighbor	place
-	15 1957	48 Thither
	Astaire	49 Bees'
	movie	structure
,	17 Crafty	54 A billion
•	18 Corn	years
•	spike	55 Hack-
5	19 Chops	neyed
	into small	56 Retainer
	bits	57 Firma-

7 Firma-21 Reflective power 24 Grad 25 Romanian money 26 Overactor

58 Handle helm Solution time: 24 mins. 28 Flounder through puddles



THANK YOU FOR READING THE



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Today's Cryptoquip Clue: I equals H