

What's On

contract bridge

By Steve Becker

Bidding quiz

You are South, both sides vulnerable. The bidding has gone:

North	East	South	West
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	?	

What would you bid now with each of the following five hands?

- ♠ AK ♥ KQ982 ♦ 94 ♣ Q973
- ♠ 875 ♥ AJ86 ♦ AQ3 ♣ KQ4
- ♠ K6 ♥ QJ9743 ♦ QJ8 ♣ A6
- ♠ J94 ♥ AJ763 ♦ J75 ♣ 52
- ♠ QJ72 ♥ AQ762 ♦ K5 ♣ K8

(Today's quiz assumes that you are playing jump-bids by responder on the second round are forcing to game. If you play that such jumps are merely invitational, as many do, some of your responses would be different than those given here.)

1. Three clubs. With an opening bid opposite an opening bid, this is obviously a game-going hand, but the best contract is unclear at the moment. Three clubs (forcing) informs partner of your values and makes him aware that you are interested in reaching at least a game in clubs, hearts or notrump, depending on his hand.

2. Three notrump. This shows balanced distribution (no void or singleton) and 16 or 17 points, and therefore is a mild slam try. Two notrump would show 13 to 15 points

and limited interest in a slam.

3. Three hearts. Here you can play game in notrump if your partner is so inclined, but you should first shoot for game in hearts, since you have a six-card suit. If partner can't support hearts and bids three notrump, you intend to pass.

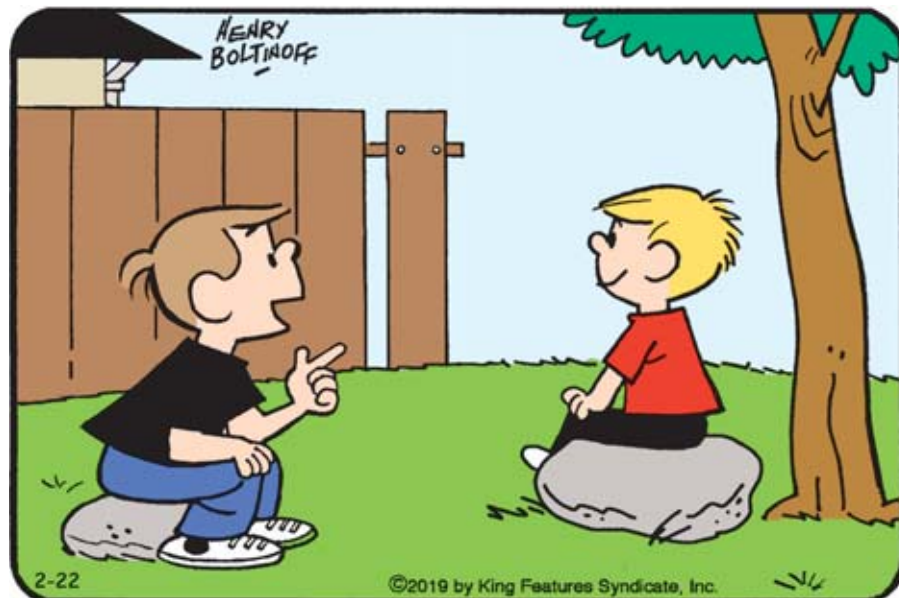
4. Pass. The chance of making a game is remote, so the only real problem is to find the best partscore contract. There is no good reason to think that searching for a better spot than one spade would pay dividends. Partner might take any further action by you seriously, and it would be wrong to run such a risk unnecessarily.

Note that the opening bidder's change of suit is not forcing. The forcing principle applies only when responder names a new suit.

5. Four spades. A jump to three spades would show 13 to 15 points, so four spades shows 16 to 17 and at least mild interest in a slam. In these cases, distributional points are added to the raw high-card values.

The sequence in question is completely different from the case where dealer opens with one spade and responder jumps to four spades, which announces lots of trumps and distribution but very limited high-card strength.

Sunday: Card-reading



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Shirt is longer. 2. Arm is lower. 3. Downspout is missing. 4. Nail is missing from fence board. 5. Rock is larger. 6. Laces are missing.

click

Drinking problem?: Friends of Bill W. are available to help. Totally confidential. Email: rohsecretary@gmail.com

Narcotics Anonymous: NA can help with addiction problems. Totally confidential: 94087800 English/Arabic.

Cancer online support group: If you are a Cancer patient or family member fighting with this deadly disease, come join our online support group. Best way of dealing with this disease is providing support and share our experience with each other. There are lot of things which even doctors can't tell so be member of this website and start sharing your experiences which may help others. October is recognized as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month (NBCAM). The primary purpose is to promote self examination and screening mammography as the most effective way to save lives by detecting breast cancer at early stage. For more information visit: <http://fightingwithcancer.webs.com/>

Latest

Feb 25

TMCA blood donation camp: Tamilnadu Muslim Cultural Association (TMCA), Kuwait, a non-profit and one of the oldest Indian Associations registered with the Embassy of India since 1995, is organizing Blood Donation Drive every year on 25th February, commemorating resident Kuwait's National and Liberation Days celebrations. In its 24th year (1995-2019) of existence and service, we have great pleasure to conduct our 14th year of Blood Donation Drive this year also on Monday, Feb 25, between 8 am till 1.00 pm at Jabriya Central Blood Bank.

Donating blood is an active way of helping others and the whole of society. One can almost say that blood is that magic potion which gives life to another person. Though we have made tremendous discoveries and inventions in Science we are not yet able to make the magic potion called Blood. Human blood has no substitute. Requirement of safe blood is increasing and regular voluntary blood donations are vital for blood transfusion services.

Our body has 5.5 ltr of blood of which only 350 ml-450 ml of blood is taken depending upon weight of donor. Majority of healthy adults can tolerate withdrawal of one unit of blood. The withdrawn blood volume is restored within 24 hours and the hemoglobin and cell components are restored in 2 months. Therefore it is safe to donate blood every three months. After donating, you should have a snack and something to drink in the refreshments area. You can leave the site after 10-15 minutes and continue with your normal daily activities. Talking with the donor throughout all the stages is extremely important, as it helps donors to feel happy and also helps the first time donors to get rid of their fear.

The purpose to organize a blood donation camp is to motivate people to donate blood. So dear brothers and sisters donate blood and give someone a 'gift of life.'

For information & registration : 9786 9749 / 9784 1399 / 6771 5197 / 5119 8475 / 9944 2076 / 9938 2025 / 6653 0968 / 6657 0540

General

Indian Embassy notice: The 15th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) is going to be organized at Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh from Jan 21-23, 2019. The PBD website was launched jointly by the Hon'ble External Affairs Minister of India and the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh on Sept 15, 2018. Registration process has already started and interested participants can visit the PBD website at: <https://www.pbndia.gov.in>

The website contains all details relating to PBD 2019 - Registration, Programme etc.

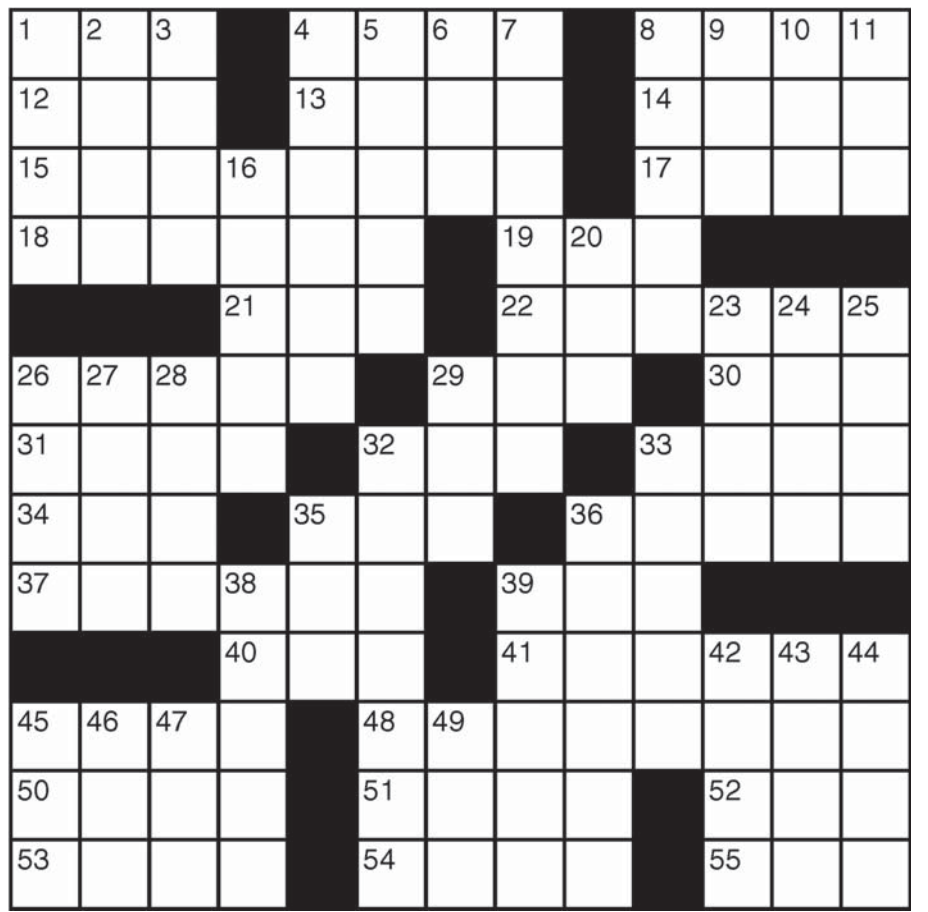
PBD 2019 will have two new optional programme elements: Delegates will have options to participate in Kumbh Mela at Prayagraj (UP) on 24th January; AND/OR witness the Republic Day Parade on 26th January, 2019 at New Delhi. Therefore, interested participants will have to opt at the time of registration if they want to visit Kumbh Mela at Prayagraj and/or the Republic Day Parade at New Delhi, and take note of the relevant provisions.

For more details on PBD 2019 please visit PBD website at <https://www.pbndia.gov.in>.

Advisory for OCI card holders: All those having OCI Cards are required to carry both their OCI Card and passport to travel to India so that they do not face any difficulty in immigration clearance.

From October 2018, ICAO will accept only machine readable travel documents, hence, existing PIO Cards, which are handwritten will therefore, become invalid. Thus it will be necessary upon PIO Cardholders to obtain machine readable OCI Cards in lieu of existing hand written PIO Cards before October 2018 to avoid any inconvenience.

Eugene Sheffer Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 Up to
- 4 Platter
- 8 Scoop holder
- 12 Olympics chant
- 13 Sicilian resort
- 14 Dryer fuzz
- 15 Sandal type
- 17 ... potables
- 18 Computer whiz
- 19 Dog tags, e.g.
- 21 PC key
- 22 Excellent
- 26 Expire
- 29 Present location?
- 30 Med. plan option
- 31 Perry's creator
- 32 — Aviv
- 33 Hotel worker
- 34 From — Z
- 35 "Science Guy" Bill
- 36 Segments

- 37 Kanye West's music
- 39 Moon-shine vessel
- 40 Japanese sash
- 41 Narcotic
- 45 Volition
- 48 Sound of hoofbeats
- 50 Tom Joad, for one
- 51 First-rate nickname
- 53 Marries
- 54 A deadly sin
- 55 Moment

- 2 Capri, e.g.
- 3 Secular
- 4 Sully
- 5 Cove
- 6 — -Cat
- 7 Domed building in Washington D.C.
- 8 Purse
- 9 Tin Man's need
- 10 SSW opposite
- 11 UFO crew
- 16 Stage
- 20 Ten, in Dijon
- 23 "— she blows!"
- 24 Skip

- 25 Space-craft compartments
- 26 Wife of Jacob
- 27 Intro studio class
- 28 Fall into a soft chair
- 29 Spell-down
- 32 Not out of the ordinary
- 33 Wizardry
- 35 San Francisco's — Hill
- 36 Thing on a string
- 38 Bagel features
- 39 Unites
- 42 Regretably
- 43 Rent
- 44 Grand tale
- 45 Dazzle
- 46 White House nickname
- 47 Cover
- 49 Baseball's Gehrig

Solution time: 25 mins.



Yesterday's answer 2-22

2-22

CRYPTOQUIP

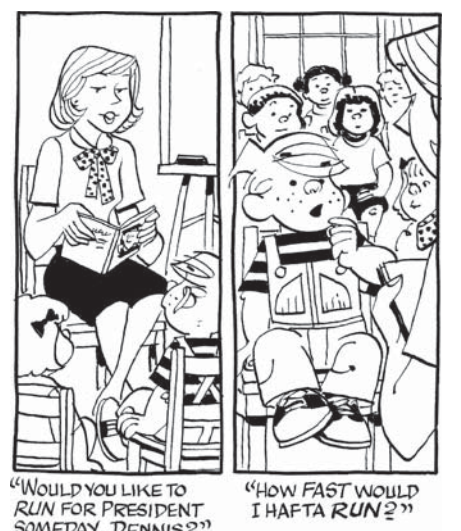
X G F L S O W F X C W X G O X
 Y H C - K C K C S B G O I O L O S F
 D P T U W C Y G - E F S S T U
 O X B T Y L G F P F . C X U O Y
 T H G F P - U T P S I S E .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHY WERE SOME POLICE OFFICERS ARRESTING A MAN WHO WAS PLAYING POOL? HE WAS PICKING POCKETS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: S equals L

Word by Word

- Speed (عجله) Ajala**
More haste, less speed.
Ajala akhtar, surah aqal.
- Numbers عجله أكثر، سرعه أقل. 8100**
Eight thousand and one hundred
Thamaniyat alaaaf wa maah



"WOULD YOU LIKE TO RUN FOR PRESIDENT SOMEDAY, DENNIS?" "HOW FAST WOULD I HAFTA RUN?"

Conceptis Sudoku

The grid must be so completed that every row, column and 3x3 box has every digit from 1 to 9 inclusive

By Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★

Answer to yesterday's puzzle

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

Difficulty Level ★★

Challenger

By Louis MURER

				5
		2		6
	2			7
			2	8
1				9
8	6	8	8	10

DIRECTIONS:

- Fill each square with a number, one through nine.
- Horizontal squares should add to totals on right.
- Vertical squares should add to totals on bottom.
- Diagonal squares through center should add to total in upper and lower right.

THERE MAY BE MORE THAN ONE SOLUTION.

Today's Challenge
 Time 6 Minutes
 1 Seconds
 Your Working Time ___ Minutes
 ___ Seconds

Yesterday's solution

				19
5	7	8	7	27
5	9	4	3	21
6	7	1	6	20
1	1	1	2	5
17	24	14	18	17