

Horoscope

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Swiftly clear up any uncertainty or confusion you face. Know what you are up against, and find a way to eliminate whatever is standing in your way. Be innovative whenever possible.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Take a second look at something you want to pursue. Find out what's required before you commit to anything. Make self-improvement, personal growth and a healthier lifestyle your priorities.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Ask questions, verify information and take care of your responsibilities. You can make a change at home as long as you stay within budget. Think about a

sensitive issue before you speak about it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Speak up, ask for input and consider the best way to bring about change. A positive change will improve your mental, physical and financial well-being.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- You are better off observing for now. Tell the truth and keep your promises. If someone lets you down, be ready to take your business elsewhere.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Do what you can to help others. A kind gesture will mean a lot to someone who is experiencing tough times. A joint venture will change your opinion of a longtime acquaintance.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Evaluate your

relationship with anyone you share costs, responsibilities or possessions with, and make adjustments to ensure equality prevails. Honesty will help you move forward without hesitation.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- It's a good time to initiate ideas and plans that will encourage new beginnings. Look for opportunities and be aggressive in your pursuits. Romance is on the rise.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Handle discussions, dealings with institutions and relationships with superiors carefully. Expand your mind, take better care of your health and explore new possibilities.

Address change with reason, not with anger.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- Be honest with yourself;

it will help you see to the changes going on around you. A creative pursuit will ease stress and help you gain perspective.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- You'll be confused about the changes someone is making. Don't hesitate to ask questions, but recognize that interference will only make matters worse.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Confusion will set in if you are gullible or too trusting. Be prepared to make a last-minute change if you see that something is wrong or not turning out as promised. Focus on doing what's right.

Crossword

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Stood up

6 Swiss

11 Christmas

12 Dark

13 Burglar's

14 Draw

15 Fling

17 Kitten

18 Ridicu-

lously

exagger-

ated

22 Moon

goddess

23 Logic

27 Touches

on

29 O'Neill

forte

30 Former

Spanish

coin

32 Sink

problem

33 Move

35 Horse

healer

38 Hotspot

offering

39 Bakery

come-on

41 Sun-dried

brick

45 Chad

neighbor

46 Wish

granter

47 Berate

48 Wear

away

DOWN

1 Play a

part

2 Fan's cry

3 Lode

material

4 It

contains

minimal

dissolved

minerals

5 Pop star

John

6 Took a

stab

7 Finish

8 Home-

coming

attendee

9 Paella

base

10 Hearty

dish

16 Knight's

address

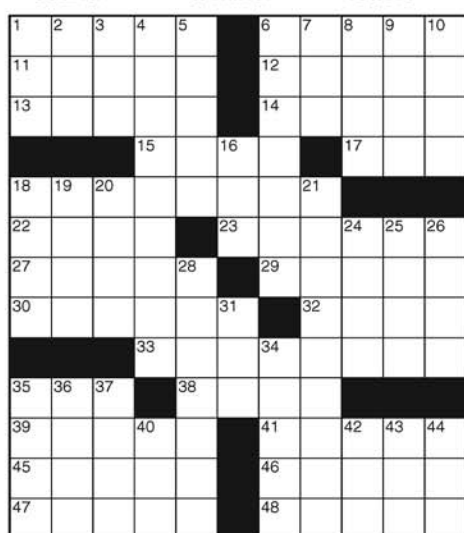
18 Thunder

sound



Saturday's answer

- 19 Garage job, 35 Moving
for short trucks
- 20 Burden 36 Bana of
"Troy"
- 21 Applejack
kin 37 Fast food
request
- 24 Mystery 40 Brooks of
writer film
- 25 Leave out 42 Music's
base Yoko
- 26 Neck part 43 Auction
worker action
- 31 Boxer Laila 44 Wide
address shoe
- 18 Thunder 34 No longer
sound a minor letters



Cryptoquote

A X Y D L B A A X R
is L O N G F E L L O W

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

10-19 CRYPTOQUOTE

O X G E G N D O P A K O X G V A B R Q
X N C O V A G Q J G C , A M G A K
R N D J X O G B , A M G A K N M J D W C X ,
T D O O W M J O X G X G N B O
N C D M Q G B . — U W B J W M W N

V A A R K

Saturday's Cryptoquote: REPUTATION IS OFTEN
GOT WITHOUT MERIT AND LOST WITHOUT
FAULT. — ENGLISH PROVERB

Alder on Bridge: The robots are too trusting

By Phillip Alder

A couple of weeks ago, I gave Isaac Asimov's first law of robotics: "A robot may not injure a human being or, through inaction, allow a human being to come to harm."

Sometimes I wonder if the robots that play at Bridge Base Online have been similarly programmed. For example, look only at today's West hand. What would you lead against South's contract of seven diamonds?

In the auction, two spades showed 3 ace-king points (2 for an ace and 1 for a king). So, North had an ace and a king or three kings. The snag was that South thought it had to be an ace and a king. So, when North raised diamonds, South, picturing his partner with the spade ace and king-fourth of diamonds, confidently

jumped to seven diamonds.

What did the robot lead?

You or I would have tabled the spade ace, hoping that it would win, or, if declarer ruffed, that it wouldn't cost a critical trick. Here, everything would have been fine.

The robot chose the club four! Maybe he was obeying Asimov's law, or perhaps he assumed South had to have a spade void to justify his final bid. However, a grateful declarer took the trick, drew two rounds of trumps from hand, cashed the heart ace, ruffed a heart with the diamond king, discarded his spade on the club king, drew East's last trump and claimed.

Funnily enough, seven diamonds down one would have been only just under average. Almost all pairs played in six hearts, which failed when West took the spade ace and a trump.

Jumble

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

LRIGL
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

NRUKT
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

DYBOON
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

GRHITB
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

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Answer here:

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

Saturday's

Jumbles: CREST KNACK YONDER STEREO
Answer: After so many successful launches, SpaceX revenue was beginning to — SKYROCKET



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

(Answers tomorrow)

North		10-19-20	
♠	K 9 4 3		
♥	9		
♦	K 9 6 2		
♣	K 7 5 3		
West		East	
♠	A 8	♣	Q J 10 6 5 2
♥	J 10 6 2	♥	3
♦	8 7	♦	5 4 3
♣	Q 10 6 4 2	♣	J 9 8
South			
♠	7		
♥	A K Q 8 7 5 4		
♦	A Q J 10		
♣	A		
Dealer: South Vulnerable: North-South			
South	West	North	East
2♣	Pass	2♣	Pass
3♥	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♦	Pass	5♦	Pass
7♠	Pass	Pass	Pass
Opening lead: ??			