Horoscope

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Look for an outlet that dissipates pent-up energy. Blow off steam in a healthy way, and pursue your goals. Don't let others lead you astray. Update your look, and compliments will follow.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Have your questions and answers ready. Take a leadership position and use intelligence, patience and understanding to map out the best way to get things done on time.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- Know what you are up against before you take action. An encounter with someone who doesn't share your views will test your patience and knowledge. Do your best to keep the peace.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Get the facts, prepare your defense and don't believe everything you hear. It's important to reserve judgment but, at the same time, you must not be gullible. Focus on educational pursuits.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- You'll attract informative people. Share your vision, and the input you receive will spark your imagination. A partnership will be tempting, but make sure your expenses are shared. Romance is in the stars.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Indecisiveness will weigh heavily on your mind. Distance yourself from unpredictable individuals. Put your time and energy into something you believe in or an activity that will bring you closer to someone.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- It's up to you to bring about positive change. If you wait for someone else to make the first move, you won't accomplish what you set out to do. Look for alternative solutions.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Think before you act. If you let your emotions lead the way, you'll end up on the defensive. Physical fitness, personal growth and educational pursuits will help you gain confidence.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Accept the inevitable. Be open to suggestions, but don't lose sight of your plan. An innovative approach to how you run your home and deal with friends and relatives will pay off.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Be observant; question anything that appears odd or unlikely. Use your intelligence to ferret out what's real and what isn't. Don't make a decision based on what someone else does.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Put more thought into what you want to do next. A professional move, investment or lifestyle change will tempt you. Follow your heart, and pay attention to those who bring out the best in you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Put more time and thought into something that interests you. Educational pursuits will encourage you to use your skills in a satisfying way. Do your own thing.

Crossword

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

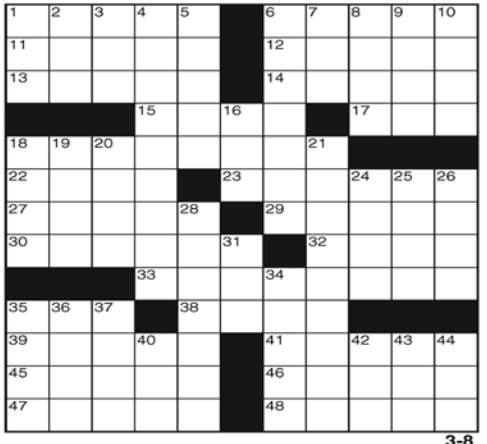
1 Signs of sorrow
6 Make suitable
11 Parcel out
12 Japanese fish dish
13 Hold responsible
14 Tribe symbol
15 Jason's ship
17 Be in debt
18 Checkout devices
22 Poet Whitman
23 Occupies
27 Be of use
29 Entertain
30 Puzzle-solving choice
32 Region
33 Wrenches, in Britain
35 Uncooked
38 Location
39 Naples's nation
41 Strictness
45 Was admitted to
46 Deli device
47 Early Mexican
48 Newark's county

DOWN

1 Bar bill
2 Building wing
3 In the style of
4 Lovers of love
5 Boat's back
6 Section of Queens
7 Twosome
8 Regarding
9 "That was close!"
10 Clock reading
16 Attain
18 Trade
19 Bat abode
20 Actor Rickman
21 Linguist's concern
24 Confident
25 Manipulative sort
26 Pod contents
28 Pretend to sing, perhaps
31 Pet perch
34 Like Loki
35 Latvia's capital
36 Full range
37 Bulb unit
40 Whopper
42 Helium or hydrogen
43 Bullfight cry
44 King, in Latin

S	P	L	I	T	■	A	R	B	O	R
E	R	A	S	E	■	S	E	R	G	E
R	I	N	S	E	■	S	O	A	R	S
I	N	C	A	S	H	■	■	Z	E	E
A	C	E	■	H	I	T	L	I	S	T
L	E	D	■	I	D	E	A	L	S	■
■	■	■	B	R	E	A	D	■	■	■
■	P	H	O	T	O	S	■	I	D	O
G	R	O	W	S	U	P	■	T	E	T
R	O	T	■	■	S	O	W	H	A	T
I	N	D	I	A	■	O	H	A	R	E
S	T	O	R	M	■	N	I	C	E	R
T	O	G	A	S	■	S	P	A	R	S

Saturday's answer



3-8

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.

3-8 **CRYPTOQUOTE**

Y K M N R S Z P K B S Y D P I N Z H N I

S V N M Y D H , P K O M N B N K O S H K

S V N M Y D H Y K M N R S Z P K M R F

Y D M N D U P Z S Y M .

— V S N Z V S D P K M P F P K P

Saturday's Cryptoquote: NO GAIN IS SO CERTAIN AS THAT WHICH PROCEEDS FROM THE ECONOMICAL USE OF WHAT YOU ALREADY HAVE. — LATIN PROVERB

Jumble

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

TSEPE

GDEAA

REVANT

PLUHLI

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

Print answer here: (Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: LEGAL TEETH SMOOTH CAMPUS
Answer: To quickly sell last season's fashions, the boutique had a — "CLOTHES-OUT" SALE

Alder on Bridge: Buy a policy to save a slam

By Phillip Alder

At the bridge table, many players don't take out insurance. They assume everything will be for the best in the best of all possible worlds.

And when they get lucky, they don't learn the errors of their ways -- unless the dummy or a kibitzer cannot keep quiet.

How should declarer plan the play in today's contract of six no-trump? West leads a top-of-nothing spade nine.

Leading against a slam is difficult. You are tempted to falsecard to try to fool declarer, but if your partner is the one taken in, it will not be good for partnership confidence.

With eight tricks outside clubs, many players would win the first trick in the dummy and call for the club jack. Anytime the clubs are 3-2 or 4-1, or East has all five, there is no damage done, four (or five) club tricks being raked in.

However, what happens when West has all five clubs? Suddenly the contract has died.

However, South can take out insurance to allow for any club break. He should win the first trick in hand and lead a low club toward the dummy.

At the worst, this costs an overtrick when East has Q-x, Q-x-x or Q-7-6-4 of clubs. With the actual distribution, if West wins with his club queen, four club tricks are established.

So let's assume West plays low. After winning with dummy's club 10, declarer plays a heart to his hand and leads another club toward dummy, assuring 12 tricks.

03-08-21

North
♠ K Q 2
♥ 7 4 3
♦ A K 4 3
♣ J 10 5

West
♠ 9 8 7 5 4
♥ 5
♦ 7 2
♣ Q 9 7 6 4

East
♠ J 10
♥ J 10 9 8 6 2
♦ Q J 10 9 5
♣ —

South
♠ A 6 3
♥ A K Q
♦ 8 6
♣ A K 8 3 2

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Both

South	West	North	East
2NT	Pass	6NT	All Pass

Opening lead: ♠ 9