

Horoscope

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Be open to suggestions, but don't get involved in something that isn't budget-friendly. Trying to please others or being generous with your time or money will cause undue stress and limit your chance to advance.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Take a strong position if you want to get things done your way. A passionate approach will help bring about positive change. A discussion with a friend or relative will be enlightening. A romantic gesture will make your day.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Take care of unfinished domestic business. Aim to take better care of your health and well-being. You will be taken advantage of if you are too unsuspecting.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Follow through with your plans. You can negotiate, take care of pending problems, sign contracts and make personal changes that will enhance your reputation, position or job prospects. Romance is favored.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Don't make decisions under duress. Ask questions, consider others' motives and trust the facts. Handle pressing money matters with care. Joint ventures will lead to legal entanglements.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Take care of unfinished business. A change to how you earn money or handle your financial affairs will be profitable. A chance to reconnect with someone will be eye-opening. Romance

is favored.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Put your professional responsibilities first. Leave no room for error, and be prepared to make adjustments to maintain a good rapport with your peers and superiors. A partnership will change the way you live.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- Your ideas will lead to opportunities. Discuss your plans with someone who shares your concerns and interests. A romantic gesture will encourage a loved one to speak up about his or her intentions.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Keep your thoughts and emotions to yourself. Refuse to let anyone take advantage of you. Concentrate on whatever will

benefit you the most. Be secretive regarding your plans.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- Stand up for your rights and make a difference. Your strength and courage will be recognized and appreciated. Romance is on the rise.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Don't be lured down the wrong path. Emotions will run high if you can't come to terms with what's right. Find alternative ways to use your skills.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Trust and believe in what you are capable of doing. Make changes to improve your life and emotional well-being. Personal growth will open doors to new beginnings. Love and romance are in the stars.

Crossword

CROSSWORD

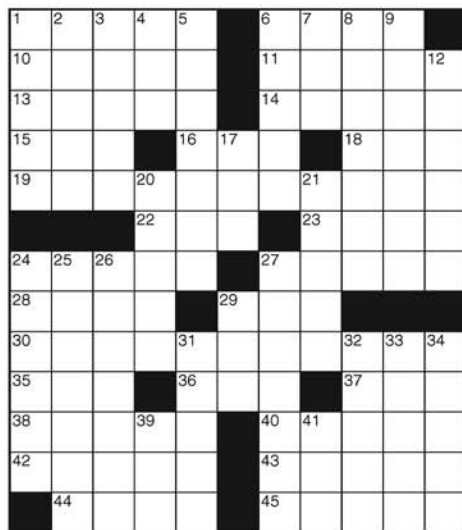
By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 42 Twin of Romulus
- 1 Flexes divine help
- 6 Ask for land visitor
- 43 Wonder-land visitor
- 44 Red-ink amount
- 45 Signs a lease
- 42 Twin of Romulus
- 1 Flexes divine help
- 6 Ask for land visitor
- 43 Wonder-land visitor
- 44 Red-ink amount
- 45 Signs a lease



Saturday's answer

- DOWN**
- 1 Flock
- 2 Outfit
- 3 Prod into action
- 4 Conk out
- 5 Fruit-filled pastry
- 6 Out of style
- 7 Gene messenger
- 8 Included
- 9 Like some bonuses
- 12 Kicks off
- 17 Old hand
- 20 Make blank
- 21 Friendly señorita
- 24 Element singer
- 25 Red-faced Bobby
- 26 Reason for overtime
- 27 South African
- 29 Winter ailment
- 31 Comic tribute
- 32 "Mack the Knife"
- 33 Put up Gets up
- 34 Wheel part
- 39 Wheel part
- 41 Pub drink



Cryptoquote

A XYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

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.

10-5 CRYPTOQUOTE

Z A K Y S S N U L A D A X Y Q Y U A I

H S H S U A Q A D U N Q I H P H I A I

H S X V Q X N D A . Z A D U Y S I

U N T A U M A Q V S U H G U M A A S I .

— Z N N I Q N Z Z H G D N S

Saturday's Cryptoquote: A MAN IS KNOWN BY THE COMPANY THAT KEEPS HIM ON AFTER RETIREMENT AGE. — SOURCE OBSCURE

Alder on Bridge: The robots make weird opening leads

By Phillip Alder

To start today, look only at the West hand. What would you lead against one no-trump doubled?

Those of you who play regularly at Bridge Base Online with the robots will have noticed that in particular their opening leads are unusual. A minor-suit singleton against a no-trump contract is not uncommon. They would do so much better to lead fourth-highest from the longest and strongest, or top of touching honors. Perhaps they don't because they may injure a human bridge player!

South upgraded his hand for the aces and kings. (The Kaplan-Rubens hand evaluation method rates this hand as worth 15.15 points.) I like West's double

in preference to a bid showing a spade-minor two-suiter.

You would expect West to lead the club king. Declarer can win that and play a heart, but the defenders take one spade, two hearts and four clubs for down one. Plus 200 would have been a top for East-West in an online duplicate.

However, at the table, West led the heart ace. No problem; surely the robot shifted to the club king. No -- it led the diamond eight: nine, 10, ace.

Declarer played a heart, and finally West turned to clubs, but South won, played a heart to the jack and ran the diamond jack when East played low. Now South had seven tricks: two hearts, four diamonds and one club. Plus 180 was a top for North-South.

Jumble

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



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Saturday's

Jumbles: HOTLY TAKEN ROTATE INWARD
Answer: They had returned, and everyone agreed that the Apollo 11 astronauts were — DOWN TO EARTH



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

(Answers tomorrow)

North		10-05-20	
♠ Q 5 3			
♥ Q J 7 5			
♦ J 9 7 3			
♣ 9 7			
West		East	
♠ A J 9 4 2		♠ 8 7	
♥ A K		♥ 10 9 2	
♦ 8		♦ Q 10 5 4	
♣ K Q J 8 6		♣ 10 4 3 2	
South			
♠ K 10 6			
♥ 8 6 4 3			
♦ A K 6 2			
♣ A 5			
Dealer: East			
Vulnerable: Both			
South	West	North	East
1NT	Dbl.	All Pass	Pass
Opening lead: ??			