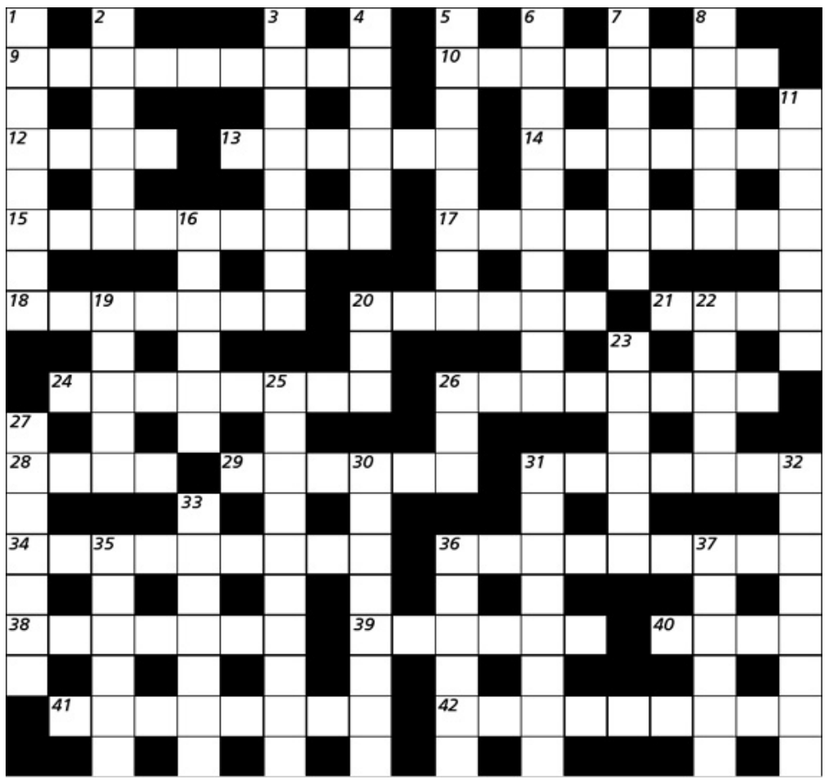
JUMBO CROSSWORD



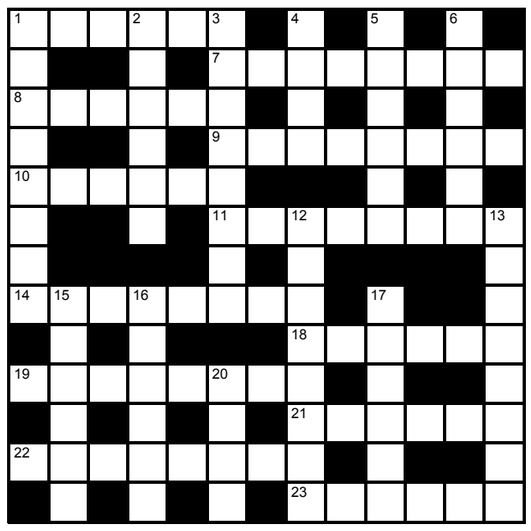
ACROSS: 9 Stained (9) **10** Fragrant (8) **12** Compass point (4) **13** Go on board (6) **14** Greediness (7) **15** Provisions (9) **17** Dwelling (9) **18** Whaling-spear (7) **20** Underground room (6) **21** Operatic song (4) **24** English county (8) **26** Loyalty (8) **28** Insects (4) **29** Set fire to (6) **31** Rocket launcher (7) **34** Coast (9) **36** Very unhappy (9) **38** Defame (7) **39** Serviette (6) **40** Manner of walking (4) **41** Capital of Finland (8) **42** Moving staircase (9)
DOWN: 1 Might (8) **2** Painting on plaster (6) **3** Winning competitor (8) **4** Standards of perfection (6) **5** Food fish (8) **6** Area between enemy trenches (2-4-4) **7** Risks (7) **8** Servile attendant (6) **11** A few (7) **16** Called to mind (6) **19** Perch (5) **20** Baby's bed (3) **22** Proportion (5) **23** School jacket (6) **25** Jewellery item (6,4) **26** Payment (3) **27** Flashily vulgar (7) **30** US state (8) **31** Sully (8) **32** Opening (8) **33** Scandinavian (7) **35** Rubber (6) **36** Child, informally (6) **37** Loveliness (6)

CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS: 9 Making one feel guilty, is irritating (4,5)
10 Stop! Don't switch on again! (5,3)
12 Even out when you have a lucky streak (4)
13 Saw coming out with (6)
14 Ship it requires nerve for one to travel on (7)
15 At risk when telephoning (2,3,4)
17 Meant to carry out the repair, for a change (9)
18 Harass about the large number requiring tenants (7)
20 Proposal put forward as a gesture (6)
21 Puncture that's a real pain in the neck! (4)
24 Rather so myself, wouldn't you agree? (8)
26 Allowed to, though one was hurt by (8)
28 Shorts for children (4)
29 The last one was more friendly with (6)
31 Gets information about the return from savings (4,3)
34 Is it second nature for a gunman to have one? (9)
36 Again having a job after the suspension (9)
38 A saucer from the cupboard (7)
39 Retaining one's balance, don't give in to (6)
40 Tolerable just (4)
41 Loss of dignity suffered by a grounded pilot? (8)
42 Pretending to be discerning (6,3)
DOWN: 1 Are a scream about the allotment! (5-3)
2 Let you know if the steak is coming up (6)
3 He won't introduce his mates to each other (8)
4 Won't work when you try to light it (6)
5 "The colours," you storm, "are glaring" (8)
6 Made little of, in a funny sort of way (7,3)
7 Isolate the bad clues the Ed altered (7)
8 Notes the feet are wobbly and weak (6)
11 Home-made and mended (7)
16 Side with one another (6)
19 A sleeping place for the big rats outside! (5)
20 Dull to get involved with (3)
22 Fat, order some seconds (5)
23 Kids one ensures will have a nap (6)
25 Inspired by the imp who set loose a snake in the monastery? (4,6)
26 Is standing right by the gentleman (3)
27 Having the pearls, leaves high and dry? (7)
30 Getting nice rugs to scatter about (8)
31 He's been called just as you have (8)
32 Create when gate crashing Rene comes in (8)
33 Both drunk and broke (7)
35 I don't bother to insert the key attached to it (4,2)
36 Continue to provide a synopsis (6)
37 Squabbling, are lined up (2,1,3)

TODAY'S SOLUTIONS
CRYPTIC: Across: 9 Hair shirt. **10** Gaol-eon. **12** Roll. **13** Saying. **14** Leave off. **17** A-mend-ment. **18** To-r-M-ent. **20** Motion. **21** Bore. **24** So-me-what. **26** Suffered. **28** Tots. **29** Closer. **31** Ne-st-eg-g (rev). **34** Automatic. **36** Re-mission. **38** Dresser. **39** Res-I's-t. **40** Fair. **41** Come-down. **42** Making out.
Down: 1 Sh-are-out. **2** Fi-llet (rev). **3** Bigamist. **4** Strike. **5** Flag-rant. **6** Laughed off. **7** Secin-de. **8** E-F-fete. **11** Knitted. **16** Eleven (11). **19** Ro-OS-t. **20** Mat. **22** OBE-se(conds). **23** Teases. **25** Holy terror. **26** Si-R. **27** Strands. **30** Securing. **31** Namesake. **32** G-ener-ate. **33** Smashed. **35** Ti-E-d on. **36** Resume. **37** In a row.
EASY: Across: 9 Tarnished. **10** Harpoon. **Cellar. 21** Aria. **24** Somerset. **26** Fidelity. **28** Ants. **29** Ignite. **31** Bazooka. **34** Freewheel. **36** Miserable. **38** Slander. **39** Napkin. **40** Gait. **41** Helsinki. **42** Escalator.
Down: 1 Strength. **2** Fresco. **3** Champion. **4** Ideals. **5** Mackerel. **6** No-man's-land. **7** Hazards. **8** Minion. **11** Several. **16** Evoked. **19** Roost. **20** Cot. **22** Ratio. **23** Blazer. **25** Signet ring. **26** Fee. **27** Raffish. **30** Illinois. **31** Besmirch. **32** Aperture. **33** Swedish. **35** Eraser. **36** Moppet. **37** Beauty.

CRYPTIC 320



TODAY'S SOLUTIONS:
Across: 1 Missal. **7** Intruder. **8** Modest. **9** Esculent. **10** Reader. **11** Aperture. **14** Strident. **18** Radium. **19** Pristine. **21** Airmen. **22** Constant. **23** Yodels.
Down: 1 Memories. **2** Steady. **3** Literate. **4** Otic. **5** Bullet. **6** Meaner. **12** Entreaty. **13** Elements. **15** Torpor. **16** Insist. **17** Adored. **20** Iran.

ACROSS
1 That young girl with Capone gets booked in church (6)
7 Some paint rude remarks about one so uninvited (8)
8 It's fashionable for a saint to be so unassuming (6)
9 My uncle set out to find something good to eat (8)
10 Found in the library and has one red ear (6)
11 There's an opening for you here (8)
14 Take a long step to the Territory creaking (8)
18 I get on a drum and become very active (6)
19 Get the priest in and you'll be as good as new (8)
21 They're a flighty lot (6)
22 Seen as being not scant and therefore always present (8)
23 Yes, gets old and sings like this (6)

DOWN
1 More about me is revealed in them (8)
2 Firm dates and why they're necessary (6)
3 Those educated put on a tie later (8)
4 A little idiotic about the ear? (4)
5 Shoots both the bovine and the alien (6)
6 Intend Her Majesty observing you more stingy? (6)
12 An earnest request to be permitted to eat on entry (8)
13 The rudimentary principles applying to men of steel (8)
15 Or consuming port may produce lethargic dullness (6)
16 In the main sisters demand that it's so (6)
17 What a fuss! Coloured up when worshipped (6)
20 I moved quickly to get to the country (4)

SUDOKU

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

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3X3 grid contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats.

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

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LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

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

THE XFILES

WITH TANYA VAN JAARSVELDT
CROSSWORDS@INL.CO.ZA

YOUR STARS

Barbara Kiselev

If today is your birthday:
Make this new year your year for getting things done. For getting what you've wanted for so long. It's all going your way, so no problem if things need to be overcome. Run with the challenges, it makes you a better person.

Aries (21 March-20 April)
Everything falls into place this week, just as you wanted. You worked for it, now is your time. You're going places, meeting people, getting things done. Nothing can stop you, not even some negativity you need to face. You're so over it.

Taurus (21 April-21 May)
This week all you need is that one final push and you're there. You wanted it badly, more than anything. Now is your time, make the best of it. So keep moving forward, no-one can stop you. You've never pushed harder.

Gemini (22 May-21 June)
Funny how things happen. One moment things are not going your way, next thing it's all turned around. So this week make sure it's your week. You can make it. Get where you were going. Maybe even a little further.

Cancer (22 June-23 July)
More than anything you want to be affirmed. This week you will be. So take what you can and make the best of it. You were wondering when it would be your turn. Now it's all for you. It's all up to you.

Leo (24 July-23 August)
This week it's no longer about wishing it were so. This week is all about making it happen for yourself. So take the challenge and run with it. You can do much, it's all yours. You will be tested, but you always win

Virgo (24 August-23 September)
Sometimes it takes a while, sometimes it happens instantly. This week it's all going according to plan. So do what needs to be done, what's expected of you. And maybe you can change things to your benefit. Give it time.

Libra (24 September-23 October)
This week you are getting what you want, having that dream fulfilled. You wanted a lot from life, now it's all coming your way. But make no mistake you worked for it. Had to overcome it. and dream big. And now you've got it.

Scorpio (24 October-22 November)
Only the best will do, you expect nothing less. So this week dream big or go home. You were thinking you need to change things up a little. Challenge yourself. So take what you can, it's time for a new narrative.

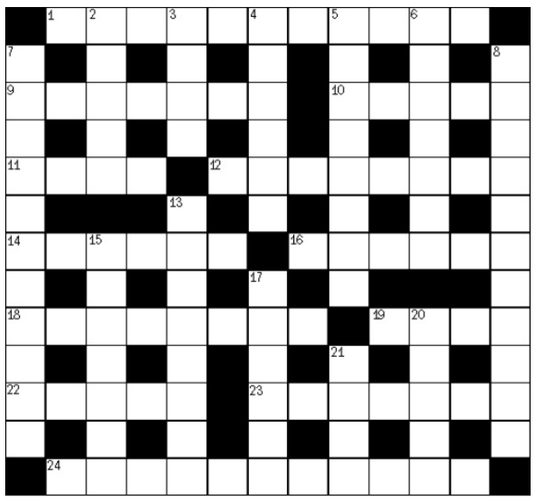
Sagittarius (23 November-21 December)
For all that you wanted, you put in the time, made the necessary sacrifices, did what must be done. This week it's coming easy, all just flowing in your direction. So keep up the good work, and you can receive your benefits.

Capricorn (22 December-20 January)
Somehow you knew it was time for a change. Somehow you're more than ready. You wanted a lot from life, and guess what? It's yours to be had. No problem. Dreaming big is the way to go this week. Shift the paradigm.

Aquarius (21 January-19 February)
So no regrets, they say. This week leave it all behind, and forge a new path. Leave what held you back, and try something new. It's all about where you're coming from. Where you're going. So make it yours.

Pisces (20 February-20 March)
If you thought it couldn't be done, it can. This week you're doing it for yourself, and getting all you could possibly want. So make it about yourself for a change, and you will find you're in a good place.

10 MINUTE CROSSWORD

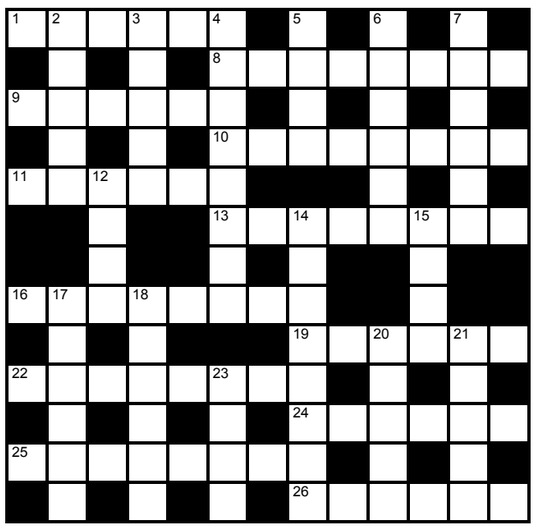


ACROSS
1 Set absolute limit (4,3,4)
9 A lot of (7)
10 Rate of activity (5)
11 Sole (4)
12 Effectively influenced (8)
14 Forgive for offence (6)
16 Lower dignity of (6)
18 South American country (8)
19 Responsibility (4)
22 Occurrence (5)
23 Of little depth (7)
24 Make a brisk start (3,8)

DOWN
2 Drive back (5)
3 Sharpen (4)
4 Persevere (4,2)
5 Well-read (8)
6 Candidate put forward (7)
7 Losing in a transaction (3,2,6)
8 Not be defeated (4,4,3)
13 Merely superficial (8)
15 Raise siege of (7)
17 Carnival (6)
20 A synthetic polymer (5)
21 Be short of (4)

TODAY'S SOLUTIONS
Across: 1 Drew the line. **9** Umpteen. **10** Tempo. **11** Only. **12** Governed. **14** Pardon. **16** Demeanor. **18** Colombia. **19** Onus. **22** Event. **23** Shallow. **24** Get cracking.
Down: 2 Repel. **3** Whet. **4** Hang on. **5** Lettered. **6** Nominee. **7** Out of pocket. **8** Hold one's own. **13** Cosmetic. **15** Relieve. **17** Fiesta. **20** Nylon. **21** Lack.

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

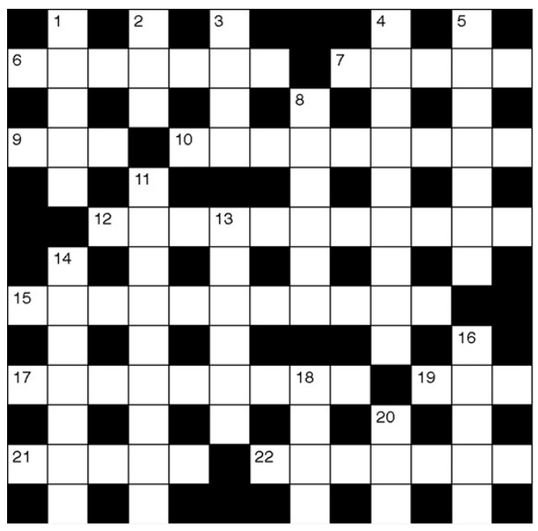


ACROSS: 1 What are numbers of sheep called (6)
8 To be gifted, is to be what (8)
9 What do we call one who fishes for pleasure (6)
10 What are objects of art of a former period (8)
11 What is one of the four periods of the year (6)
13 Who produces flowers, etc (8)
16 Name a state of anxiety (8)
19 What are things that occur (6)
22 What is an appendix to a book (8)
24 Name a hostile encounter (6)
25 Name a renowned ball game (8)
26 To be jubilant, is to be what (6)

DOWN: 2 Name a long, shafted weapon used by mounted soldiers in charging (5)
3 What are particular systems of religious worship (5)
4 To choke, is to do what (8)
5 What is a secret scheme (4)
6 Which term means rare or unusual (6)
7 To be harshly extreme, is to be what (6)
12 What are long periods of time (4)
14 To be similar to, is to do what (8)
15 Name an alternative term for midday (4)
17 Cannabis is known as which type of hemp (6)
18 What are subjects of discourse (6)
20 Which term means additional (5)
21 What is a diacritical mark placed over a letter (5)
23 To be hard of hearing, is to be what (4)

TODAY'S SOLUTIONS
Across: 1 Flocks. **8** Talented. **9** Angler. **10** Antiques. **11** Season. **13** Gardener. **16** Distress. **19** Events. **22** Addendum. **24** Battle. **25** Baseball. **26** Elated.
Down: 2 Lance. **3** Cults. **4** Strangle. **5** Plot. **6** Unique. **7** Severe. **12** Ages. **14** Resemble. **15** Noon. **17** Indian. **18** Themes. **20** Extra. **21** Tilde. **23** Deaf.

DOUBLE CROSSWORD



TODAY'S SOLUTIONS
CRYPTIC: Across: 6 Manager. **7** Chill. **9** See. **10** Mortal for. **12** Letterboxes. **15** Speak freely. **17** Road-sense. **19** Bid. **21** Stand. **22** Tumbler.
Down: 1 Wager. **2** Bat. **3** Nero. **4** Shallowly. **5** Allowed. **8** Starve. **11** Demanding. **13** Toffee **14** Sprouts. **16** Siren. 18 Snug. 20 Ebb.
QUICK: Across: 6 Jocular. **7** Crypt. **9** Jet. **10** Bewitched. **12** Counterpart. **15** Discordance. **17** Untutored. **19** Foe. **21** Tease. **22** Deliver.
Down: 1 Cower. **2** Sue. **3** Maze. **4** Precipice. **5** Appears. **8** Cinema. **11** Concourse. **13** Narrow. **14** Fiance. **16** Bower. **18** Ewer. **20** Dig.

CRYPTIC CLUES
ACROSS
6 Controlling factor (7)
7 It's cold but I would make it hot (5)
9 What the bishop has to keep his eye on (3)
10 Sworn enemy, but not an indestructible one (6,3)
12 Holders of the post (6-5)
15 Say what you will, the orator won't be paid if he does (5,6)
17 Aptitude acquired by frequently being in the way (4-5)
19 Act as though one wants a lot (3)
21 Run, yet remain still (5)
22 The glass may fall (7)

DOWN
1 Grew agitated about a gambling venture (5)
2 The label is upside down – it often is (3)
3 He ruled in pre-Antonine Rome (4)
4 How sly all may appear superficially (9)
5 After all, we do turn out with official sanction (7)
8 Become faster (6)
11 Maddening disposition of the importunate (9)
13 Some result of feeling affection is sweet (6)
14 Grows vegetables (7)
16 Tempting lady may stop people working (5)
18 Comfortably placed with arms raised (4)
20 Period of maritime decline (3)

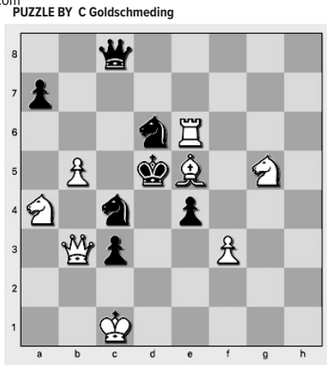
QUICK CLUES
ACROSS
6 Humorous (7)
7 Vault (5)
9 Spray (3)
10 Spellbound (9)
12 Duplicate (11)
15 Inconsistency (11)
17 Not taught (9)
19 Opponent (3)
21 Vex (5)
22 Hand over (7)

DOWN
1 Cringe (5)
2 Prosecute (3)
3 Labyrinth (4)
4 Cliff (9)
5 Seems (7)
8 Picture-house (6)
11 Gathering (9)
13 Limited (6)
14 Betrothed girl (7)
16 Arbour (5)
18 Pitcher (4)
20 Delve (3)

NICK BARNETT CHESS

THE 2020 Norway Chess tournament is underway. It started on the 5th, having previously been postponed due to the coronavirus crisis. The original list of 10 participants was reduced to six comprising GMs Magnus Carlsen, Fabiano Caruana, Levon Aronian, Jan-Krzysztof Duda, Aryan Tari as well as Alireza Firouzja.
The format of last year is maintained: in case of players drawing their game, an armageddon game is played.
A classical win yields three points, a loss 0, a win in armageddon 1.5 points, and a loss in armageddon one point.
Of interest are the ratings and DOB of each participant: Magnus Carlsen 2863 (1990); Fabiano Caruana 2835 (1992); Levon Aronian 2773 (1982); Jan-Krzysztof Duda 2753 (1998); Alireza Firouzja 2728 (2003); Aryan Tari 2634 (1999).
* * *
The candidates hit a wobble when Chinese GM Wang Hao raised concerns about the safety of Russian venues accusing FIDE president Arkady Dvorkovich of 'rudeness' towards him.
The event that decides Magnus Carlsen's challenger for the World Championship title was halted abruptly on March 26th when only 7 rounds had been played and is planned to resume on November 1st in Yekaterinburg, Russia.
But Russia, like most of Europe and many other countries, is experiencing a spike in new Covid-19 cases.
FIDE had offered Hao a private flight, directly from Beijing to Yekaterinburg and is also willing to cover a business-class flight and VIP transfer in Germany, in case he needs a stopover. He also turned down offers to play in Tbilisi, FIDE's reserve venue, as he does not consider airports in Europe safe. Wang remained concerned.
FIDE president Dvorkovich responded with a sarcastic tweet asking if Wang wanted a tournament next to his apartment.
The 2020 FIDE Candidates Tournament could well be held without Wang Hao.
* * *
Meanwhile, the Play Magnus Group stared trading on the Oslo stock exchange. The group incorporates the chess24.com website, the Chessable learning platform and the Play Magnus chess app. In recent years, the company has grown strongly with a broader focus on digital chess. Magnus Carlsen owns 16 percent of the shares in Play Magnus. They have over 3 million registered users on various platforms, of which 35,000 are monthly paying customers. It is Priced at almost 800 mill.
Patrick Sandahl, Investment Director at Investinor, said: "Chess is big and popular globally, and yet to be commercialized. Play Magnus is the company that is best positioned to digitize and commercialize chess. The company also has a strong ESG profile."
* * *
Don't forget to check Facebook – SA Chessplayers for news of ongoing events in South Africa.
* * *
For comment or news please write to thechessnik@gmail.com

PUZZLE BY C Goldschmeding



White to move and mate in 2

Solution: 1.Qb4 Nxe5 2.Rxd6 mate!

NEIL HAYWARD BRIDGE

NORTH
♠ K J T 4
♥ A K 8
♦ 8 5
♣ J 7 4 2

WEST
♠ 9
♥ Q T 4
♦ K Q T 9 6 4 3
♣ 8 6

EAST
♠ 6 3
♥ J 9 6 5 2
♦ 7 2
♣ Q T 9 5

SOUTH
♠ A Q 8 7 5 2
♥ 7 3
♦ A J
♣ A K 3

Contract: 6♠ by South

Opening Lead: West, who opened 3♦, leads the ♦K. What is your plan?

Recommended Line: You win in hand, and draw the trumps. You then play the ♥A, the ♥K, and ruff the last heart. You take note of the fact that West has contributed four cards in the major suits. Added to a presumed seven-card diamond suit, announced in the auction, this leaves room for two clubs, at most, in West's hand. You remove those cards by cashing the ♣A and ♣K. Then you play the ♦J. West wins this, and has nothing but diamonds left to lead. You trump the enforced diamond lead on table, and discard your small club. Twelve tricks. Some would say that you used the Dentist's Coup (removing West's exit cards in clubs) to extract the maximum number of tricks from this deal. If you played the hand as described, you might consider it to be the crowning glory of your bridge career.

WORD PLAY

We have found 45 words that can be made from the letters in the square, each of which uses the letter in the middle and contains at least four letters. We challenge you to beat this, and also to make at least one nine-letter word. No abbreviations, initials or foreign words unless they form words in everyday use. No plurals.
Today's Target: Good 30; very good 36; excellent 45.

H	E	Y
A	P	T
I	L	L

Today's solutions: aleph aptly haply heap help hype lapel leap leapt pail pale palely pall pallet pally paly pate path peal peat peaty peel pelt petal phial **PHILATELY** piete piety pile pill pith pithy pity platt plat plate play playlet plea pleat plie tape type yelp