FUN AND GAMES

00442021

Tuesday, January 6, 2009

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH TANNAH HIRSCH

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TOO SMART BY FAR

North-South vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH
♠ Q 9 5
♡ A 10 7 2
◇ A J 5 3
♣ 6 5

WEST
♠ J 7 4
♡ 8 5 3
◇ 7 6 2
♣ K 9 4 3

EAST
♠ A 10 6 3 2
♡ 9
◇ K Q 4
♣ 10 8 7 2

SOUTH
♠ K 8
♡ K Q J 6 4
◇ 10 9 8
♣ A Q J

The bidding:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Pass	Pass	2♠	2NT
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening lead: Four of ♠

As East, would you open the bidding in third seat? If so, what would you bid?

We don't mind a weakish opening bid in third seat; but we feel that a weak two spades paints a false picture of the hand and would opt for one spade. South elected to overcall with two no trump and North, with high cards to spare, elected to raise to three no trump rather than try Stayman.

West led a low spade, East played the ten and declarer won with the king. A heart to the ten allowed declarer to try the club finesse. West won but, since declarer had a second spade stopper, he came to 10 tricks.

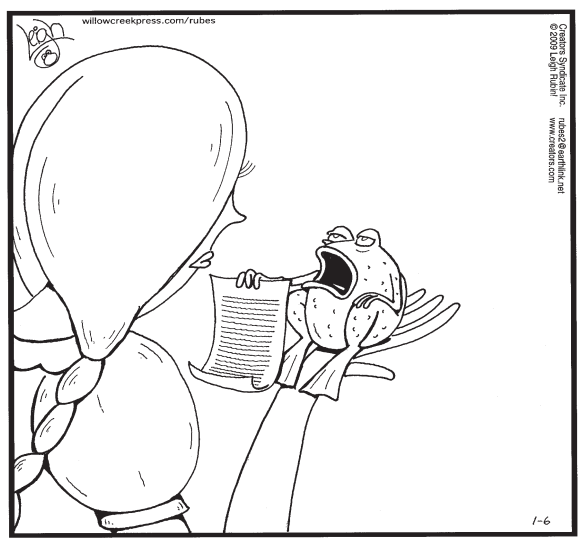
It was suggested that an opening lead of the knave of spades would have defeated the contract. However, declarer can still get home by running the hearts, and East is hopelessly squeezed.

At the other table East passed. South opened one no trump, North bid two clubs and South ended in four hearts. With every card wrong, declarer lost two diamonds, a club and a spade — down one.

(Tannah Hirsch welcomes readers' responses sent in care of this newspaper or to Tribune Media Services Inc., 2225 Kenmore Ave., Suite 114, Buffalo, NY. 14207. E-mail responses may be sent to gorenbridge@aol.com.)

SPEED BUMP

RUBES



"It's called a prenup, babe -- just a little guarantee that I'll still be able to live happily ever after should you not find me as charming as originally expected."

UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

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

1/6

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00478276 DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

Sudoku Puzzle Solution in Today's Prince George Citizen Classified Pages

Don't Quote Me — Unstoppable

Rearrange the words below to complete the quotes.

1 ANYONE ANYTHING CAN'T JUST LISTENING MORE NOT TELLS WHEN

"_____ _____ _____ me I _____ do _____... I'm _____ _____ _____ any _____."

— **Florence Griffith Joyner** (1959-1998) U.S. runner

2 CANNOT DOING GREATEST LIFE PEOPLE PLEASURE SAY YOU

"The _____ _____ in _____ is _____ what _____ _____ _____ _____ do."

— **Walter Bagehot** (1826-1877) English economist and journalist

ANSWERS: 1 "When anyone tells me I can't do anything... I'm just not listening any more." 2 "The greatest pleasure in life is doing what people say you cannot do."

www.DontQuoteMe.com ©Wiggles 3D Incorporated 2009-01-06

Something's fishy! Tuna fetches $100,000 US in Tokyo auction

The Associated Press

TOKYO — Two sushi bar owners paid more than $100,000 US for a Japanese bluefin tuna at a Tokyo fish auction Monday, about ten times the average price and the highest in nearly a decade, market officials said.

The 128-kilogram premium tuna caught off the northern coast of Oma fetched 9.63 million yen ($104,700 US), the highest since 2001, when another Japanese bluefin tuna brought an all-time record of 20 million yen, market official Takashi Yoshida said.

Yoshida said the extravagant purchase — about $370 per pound ($817 US per kilogram) — went to a Hong Kong sushi bar owner and his Japanese competitor who reached a peaceful settlement to share the big fish. The Hong Kong buyer also paid the highest price at last year's new year event at Tokyo's Tsukiji market, the world's largest fish seller, which holds near-daily auctions.

Typical tuna prices at Tokyo fish markets are less than $25 US per pound ($55 US per kilogram). But bluefin tuna is considered by gourmets to be the best, and when sliced up into small pieces and served on rice it goes for very high prices in restaurants.

Premium fish — sometimes sliced up while the customers watch — also have advertising value, underscoring a restaurant's quality, like a rare wine.

Thousands of tuna were auctioned at Monday's festive new year sale, which often brings unusually high prices.

"It was the best tuna of the day, but the price shot up because of the shortage of domestic bluefin," Yoshida said, citing rough weather at the end of December. Buyers vied for only three Oma bluefin tuna Monday, compared to 41 last year.

A similar size imported bluefin caught off the eastern United States sold for 1.42 million yen ($15,400 US) in Monday's auction.

Due to growing concerns over the impact of commercial fishing on the bluefin variety's survival, members of international tuna conservation organizations, including Japan, have agreed to cut their bluefin catch quota for 2009 by 20 per cent to 22,000 tons.

911 caller reports herself to police for DUI

The Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. — Police get calls about drunken drivers all the time, but rarely do they come from the alleged offender.

A 17-year-old girl in Bismarck, North Dakota, called 911 on New Year's Eve to report herself driving under the influence.

Police Lieutenant Randy Ziegler says he has never heard of such a thing happening before.

The girl told authorities her location shortly before midnight and officers found her in a parked car near downtown.

She failed a sobriety test and was arrested for failing to have control of her vehicle while intoxicated.

The girl, whose name was not released because of her age, was not cited for drunken driving.

"Her keys were in her purse and she was parked," Ziegler said. "She did tell us that she had been driving around for hours."

The call probably was a plea for help, he said.

Sister shouldn't be pressured into paying for brother's wedding rehearsal luncheon

ANNIE'S MAILBOX

by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar

Dear Annie: My husband and I married six years ago. The year before, my parents faced financial ruin and the loss of their home. I took it upon myself to cover their legal costs (about $12,000) and managed to save their house from seizure. In recognition of this, my brother, "Owen," generously contributed $2,500 toward the cost of our wedding.

Now it's Owen's turn to get married. The wedding will be at a fancy private club 4,000 miles away. My husband and I have a toddler and a newborn. I stay home to care for them, which has cut down on our income. Nevertheless, we have purchased the plane tickets and made the necessary hotel and babysitting arrangements.

Now Owen has asked my husband to contribute to their wedding by paying for a luncheon after the rehearsal, with the costs to be split between my other brother and me. (This brother is also travelling at great expense.)

Annie, when I married, we had no money for our rehearsal dinner, so we invited everyone over for a casual BBQ in our backyard. I suspect this is not good enough for Owen's fiancee and that she is pressuring him. However, I can't help but feel that such a demand is pushy and tacky. I know Owen feels we owe him, but at the time, he had the money and offered it freely.

I am really uncomfortable with this request. How should I respond? **—Appalled in Montreal**

Dear Montreal: We agree that it's tacky for Owen to demand this as repayment, but it would be nice if you would offer to do something for him. Tell Owen you simply don't have the wherewithal for a fancy affair, but you and your brother would be happy to host something more modest or make a reasonable contribution toward the luncheon of his choice. Be sweet about it, but don't let him pressure you into giving more than you can afford. And if you can afford nothing, be upfront and say so.

Dear Annie: My husband and I have been married for nine years. It's my second marriage. We have had several disagreements over my children. He doesn't like any of them and makes it very difficult for me to have a relationship with them.

Sometimes it seems he's only staying with me because he took vows. He also has nowhere else to go. Lately he has been so rude that I get the sense he wants me to leave him so he can tell his friends and family it's all my fault. We hardly talk or spend time together. We are usually in different parts of the house.

I am afraid to say or do anything because he will criticize me for it. I was in love with this man at one point, but now I am just trying to survive. We attempted counselling, but he quit. I really need some help. **— Losing My Marriage**

Dear Losing: Your marriage sounds miserable. If your husband won't get counselling, please go back to your previous counsellor or find another, and go on your own. A counsellor will work on the problem, suggest ways that might improve the situation and help you make decisions about what to do next.

Dear Annie: I read the letter from "Not the Land of Enchantment," who is depressed living in her new town. In your list of suggestions, I'm surprised you didn't include contacting the local humanist organization or the nearest Unitarian Church, both of which welcome atheists. I bet she'll find some friends there. **— Shelton, Wash.**

Dear Shelton: Thank you for the great suggestions. Dozens of readers recommended the Unitarian Church as a place that welcomes atheists. She can find locations through the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations at *uua.org*. For information on the humanist movement, she can contact New Humanists at *humanism.org* or the Institute for Humanist Studies at *humanists.net*.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL 60611. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

Horoscopes

00442011

ASTROLOGICAL FORECAST

By Jeraldine Saunders Tuesday, January 6, 2008

BIRTHDAY GUY: Martial arts star Richard Norton was born in Australia today in 1950. This birthday guy has appeared in such films as "Road House 2," "License to Kill" and "The Octagon." Before his acting career began in 1980, Norton worked as a bodyguard for a number of celebrities including The Rolling Stones, David Bowie and James Taylor. He recently starred in the Aussie drama "Under a Red Moon" and served as fight coordinator for the 2007 "Stone Cold" Steve Austin film "The Condemned."

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You can see it through to the end. Any business project begun now will have the added benefit of your intense passion and determination. Once you get started it will be a snap to get something completed.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Politely wedge your foot inside the door. Meet others with warm handshakes and a smile on your face. You might become the world's best salesperson if you can master the art of approaching others.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Be gracious. Be willing to accept full responsibility for situations in which you have been na Øve or foolish. Once you admit that you have made an error, it will be easy to laugh along with others.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You can become good friends with your doppelganger. It might seem as though most of the day revolves around what someone else wants or need. Truth be told; this is what you want and need, too.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): It is rocky at the top. Everyone wants to live on top of the mountain, but remember that all the growth occurs along the path you climb to get there. Don't forget to stop and smell the roses along the way.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't make it a tug of war. Sometimes rules must be broken to accommodate changing conditions. Be sure the words you speak are soft and tender, because tomorrow you may have to eat them.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Take no prisoners. Use your incredible passions for making money or excelling in the business world or career. Turn a competitor or enemy into a staunch ally and you can turn yourself into the conquering hero.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Enjoy the view. Half the fun of climbing the ladder of success is meeting nice people along the way. You can mix and mingle with groups, co-workers or your friends and still make admirable progress.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You have to aim at the goalposts to make a touchdown. If distracted by petty playthings and baubles, you won't be able to score. Concentrate on channeling your energies profitably.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Opportunities are never lost, because if you miss one someone else will take it. You may be so busy trying to beat the other guy to the front of the checkout line that you don't notice the next register has opened.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Your chickens may come home to roost. There could be someone you have lost touch with or a routine that has been disrupted. This might be a good time to revisit reassuring creature comforts.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): A smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks. With gentle Venus traveling through your sign you will find that the laws of attraction work in your favor. Always be attractive to attract others.

IF JANUARY 6 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: You will gain valuable experience during the year to come. Heightened ambitions may put a damper on your spirits and outlook in March and June. It could be that you must adhere to a tight schedule or that your performance is under scrutiny. Be sure you have taken care of loose ends such as legal matters and routine maintenance such as dental work or oil changes, before those months occur. You might be offered an opportunity to improve your circumstances, a bonus, or receive a pat on the back during the first two weeks of June. That won't mean you can slack off, but the encouragement will mean a lot.

For your expanded daily horoscope, call (900) 773-2252. Calls cost $1 per minute

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