

Prince Harry, Markle to wed

Gregory KATZ
The Associated Press

Prince Harry, fifth in line to the British throne, will marry American actress Meghan Markle in the spring, royal officials announced Monday, confirming months of speculation.

Markle, a humanitarian campaigner and lifestyle blogger who succeeded in show business before falling for Harry, will become a senior member of the royal family as the wife of one of the monarchy's most popular figures.

The couple posed for photographers on the grounds of Kensington Palace hours after their engagement was announced by Harry's father, Prince Charles.

Harry, wearing a blue suit and tie, said he was "over the moon."

Asked when he knew Markle was "the one," he said: "Very first time we met."

Markle said she was "so very happy." She wore a belted white coat and held Harry's hand as photographers focused on her engagement ring.

Palace officials said Harry designed the ring himself. It features two diamonds that belonged to his late mother Princess Diana, and a central diamond from Botswana, a country he and Markle have visited together.

They left with their arms around each other. The couple plan to give their first joint interview later Monday.

Harry, a bad-boy-made-good by his tireless devotion to wounded veterans and his embrace of a variety of charitable causes, has said for several years that he wants to start a family, and the rumours of his engagement to Markle have been flying for months.

The marriage represents a first-ever blending of Hollywood glamour with the once-stuffy royal family, which has of late seemed less fixed in its ways, and brings a mixed-race American divorcee into a highly visible role.

Harry's brother, Prince William,



Prince Harry and American actor Meghan Markle pose for the media in the grounds of Kensington Palace in London on Monday. The couple will be married in the spring, royal officials announced on Monday.

and his pregnant wife Kate welcomed Markle to the royal family.

"We are very excited for Harry and Meghan," they said in a statement. "It has been wonderful getting to know Meghan and to see how happy she and Harry are together."

Prince Charles told reporters he was "thrilled" with the engagement.

"They'll be very happy indeed," he said.

Monday's announcement said the couple became engaged in London earlier this month and that Harry has informed his grandmother, Queen Elizabeth II, whose consent is needed for him to marry.

Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby said the couple would have

a church wedding. No date has been announced.

The couple plan to live in Nottingham Cottage at Kensington Palace, where they will be neighbours to William and Kate and other members of the royal family.

Markle, who has lived in Toronto since 2011 while filming U.S. legal drama Suits, is reported to have started the sometimes time-consuming process of moving her dogs from Canada to Britain.

She reportedly recently left the television show, a development that helped fueled engagement speculation.

Congratulations also came in from the queen and her husband, Prince Philip, and from Prime Minister Theresa May. Markle's parents also welcomed the news.

Thomas Markle and Doria Ragland said their daughter "has always been a kind and loving person. To see her union with Harry, who shares the same qualities, is a source of great joy for us as parents."

Markle was raised in the Los

Angeles area. Her father is a film lighting director, her mother a yoga instructor and psychotherapist.

In some ways, Markle – a mixed-race American raised in California, an outspoken full-time actress, and a divorcee – makes a surprising addition to Britain's monarchy.

But the institution has moved on with the times, and the romance between Markle and Harry – who has repeatedly stressed his wish to lead as "normal" a life as he could – has a decidedly unstuffy, modern feel to it.

The announcement means another grand royal wedding may be in the offing – the first since William and Kate married in 2011 – though it is possible the couple may choose to have a private ceremony, perhaps in a remote location far from the paparazzi who bedeviled Harry's mother, Princess Diana.

Markle, best known for her role as an ambitious paralegal in Suits, surprised many when she shared her feelings for Harry in a September cover story for Vanity Fair.

Asked about the media frenzy surrounding their courtship, the 36-year-old said: "At the end of the day I think it's really simple... we're two people who are really happy and in love."

Harry, once known for his dicey antics, including being photographed playing strip billiards in Las Vegas, has largely charmed the British public with his winning smile, his military career and his devotion to charities aimed at helping disabled veterans and other causes.

The 33-year-old prince recently won praise with his work campaigning for more openness about mental health issues. Speaking candidly about his personal struggle to cope with the loss of his mother when he was only 12, he encouraged others to talk about their own problems rather than keeping them bottled up inside.

Markle's Vanity Fair interview broke new ground. It is unusual for a royal love interest to speak so publicly, and candidly, before becoming engaged.

Monday, November 27, 2017

R002945157

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH BOB JONES

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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ ANSWERS

Q 1 - Neither vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ A J 6 4 ♥ Q 9 2 ♦ A 10 ♣ A K 10 9

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
?			

What call would you make?

A - You would have rebid two no trump, invitational, over a red-suit response, but this hand is worth forcing to game over the one-spade response. Bid four spades.

Q 2 - North-South vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ K 9 3 ♥ A 8 2 ♦ A 9 4 3 ♣ J 9 3

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass
?			

What call would you make?

A - You intelligently passed this 4-3-3-12-count as dealer, so don't treat it as an opening bid now. Should you play a two no trump response to a minor as invitational, that's your bid. Otherwise, bid one diamond planning to bid two no trump next.

Q 3 - East-West vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ K Q 9 8 ♥ 10 3 ♦ K J 5 ♠ A J 8 6

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
INT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	?	

What call would you make?

A - Had your Stayman bid uncovered a spade fit, you might go looking for a slam. Failing that, this hand is not worth more than game. Bid three no trump.

Q 4 - Both vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ J 10 9 8 4 2 ♥ Q 5 3 ♦ A 2 ♣ K 8

As dealer, what call would you make?

A - A weak two-bid with so much defense outside of your suit would be a poor idea. It is close between one spade and pass. We like pass.

Q 5 - North-South vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ A K 2 ♥ A 10 9 7 4 ♦ 9 8 4 ♣ 6 4

As dealer, what call would you make?

A - This primed out 11-count with a decent five-card suit is worth an opening bid. Bid one heart.

Q 6 - East-West vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ 9 2 ♥ A 8 7 2 ♦ K 10 5 4 3 2 ♣ 3

Right-hand opponent opens one club. What call would you make?

A - This is your one chance to disrupt the enemy auction. Don't worry about the four-card major. Bid two diamonds.

Tuesday, November 28, 2017

R001945328

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH BOB JONES

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MAGIC

Neither vulnerable, North deals

NORTH			
♠ Q 9			
♥ Q 10 5			
♦ Q 6 4 2			
♣ A K J 5			
WEST			
♠ K J 8 6 4 2			
♥ J 4 3 2			
♦ K 7			
♣ 4			
EAST			
♠ A 10 7 5 3			
♥ 9 7 6			
♦ A			
♣ Q 10 6 2			
SOUTH			
♥ Void			
♠ A K 8			
♥ J 10 9 8 5 3			
♣ 9 8 7 3			

The bidding:

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1♠	1♠	2♦	4♣
5♦	All pass		

Opening lead: Six of ♠

We sometimes see a hand that is so well played that we have to wonder about the declarer. Was it a case of the blind squirrel finding an acorn, or was it really a magic show? Norwegian star Geir Helgemo was South, in today's deal. Helgemo would be on everyone's top 10 list of the world's best players, and at the top of some of those lists.

Helgemo's contract was reasonable, but it appeared hopeless on this lie of the cards. He was off the ace and king of trumps, and the foul club position would create at least one additional loser, perhaps two. Let's watch the show!

Helgemo ruffed the opening spade lead, crossed to dummy with a heart to the queen, and ruffed dummy's remaining spade. He cashed the ace and king of hearts before leading a club to dummy's ace. Finally, a low trump was led from dummy and won with the ace by East. East had the choice of leading a club into dummy or yielding a ruff-suff. He chose to lead a spade and give the ruff-suff.

Helgemo ruffed in dummy while shedding a club from his hand. Next came the king of clubs, which West refused to ruff. West couldn't escape his fate, however, as Helgemo now led a trump to West's king. West had no choice but to give another ruff-suff and Helgemo's last club went away as dummy ruffed. Five diamonds bid and made. What's the problem?

(Bob Jones welcomes readers' responses sent in care of this newspaper or to Tribune Content Agency, LLC., 16650 Westgrove Dr., Suite 175, Addison, TX 75001.)

UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

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

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

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

UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

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

478276

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

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

Coco puts Pixar back on path of critical success

Michael CAVNA
The Washington Post

Pixar raised the bar so high a decade ago with a spectacular three-year streak of original films that the studio is forever measured against its own success.

Yet even allowing that the Oscar-plated run of Ratatouille, WALL-E and Up found rarefied air from 2007 to 2009, the viewer expectation persisted that the great minds of Pixar would routinely keep offering non-sequel excellence. And thanks to 2012's Brave and 2015's Inside Out, that reputation was fairly supported.

But given the slate of films since then, as well as going forward, Pixar especially needed the new Coco to succeed.

Coco opened to \$71.2 million domestically over the five-day holiday frame; has grossed \$153 million worldwide; and is the biggest film in Mexican box office history. But its critical reception is crucial to Pixar's image, too.

Because if Coco hadn't landed well with reviewers and fans, that misstep would have meant that Pixar would go five years – at the least – without an acclaimed original film.

That is mostly a reflection, of course, of Pixar's hard turn toward sequels in recent years. The studio followed the critically underwhelming The Good Dinosaur two years ago this month with the massive hit sequel Finding Dory (Pixar's highest-grossing domestic release ever before adjusting for inflation; and second-highest after adjustment) and the box-office underperformer Cars 3 (Pixar's lowest-grossing domestic release ever other than The Good Dinosaur).

Let's hope Pixar continues to make space for at least several original winners each decade.

