

No Bells, No Whistles

EVERY NOW AND THEN, we can use a straight-ahead puzzle. Standard cryptic format, no tricks. Here it is.

There are four proper nouns and one hyphenated word. Everything else is playable in Scrabble.

Ignore punctuation, which is designed to confuse. And thanks to Eric Klis and Bob Fink, for test-solving and editorial suggestions.

Across

- 1 Push for New Dorp
- 4 Lane-changing panache
- 7 Rest of properties taken back with screaming
- 9 Ended by amorist losing face
- 10 Heads of the Anti-Defamation League composing soft rock
- 11 Crooked wager around Wimbledon's final
- 12 Stench through broken door
- 13 Blowout sale for some blondes
- 15 Working in the spotlight the wrong way is taboo
- 16 Rabe swimming with no clothes on
- 18 Time lost to sexual relationship
- 20 Peruvian native in California
- 21 Help! An opera
- 23 Hard times? Sounds like bull
- 25 Take too much in--God
- 26 Thought I'd preach only from three to four
- 27 Zee French consider zee advantages of galvanizing agent
- 28 Claim everyone next to threshold overheard
- 29 Hut providing curdled milk
- 30 Serious error harboring addict

DOWN

- 1 Chance of integrity surrounding a bodily injury lawsuit at the outset
- 2 Archimedes described this inverted orgy
- 3 Operation's winner proffering overture
- 4 Noise at chaotic Baltic country
- 5 Shot by play's main character
- 6 A concern R.E.M. developed: one might conjure the Dead
- 8 They say one mortgage is unsupported
- 14 Slate as mixed with residue from the Caspian (two words)
- 17 Conductor, a lyric poem
- 19 Groom's connections obtaining license
- 22 Shabbiness in racket at big company
- 24 Put on that broadcast

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Solvers

Michael and Jina Accardo, Dean Apps, Jan Brown, Mike Bugbee, Allen Bull, Lois Cappellano, Tim Connor, Jonathan Currier, Todd Dashoff, Greg Dreher, Deb Edwards, David Ellsworth, Bob Fink, Beth Fitzgerald, Bryce Fawcett, Bob Gardner, Phil Gollance, Paul Haley, Walter Haner, Pete Hepokoski, J and J Holloman, Ruth Johnson, Pat Kinney (belatedly), Eric Klis, Paul Kolell, Ken Kudrak, Nathan Kukla, Feriz Kurtaljevic, Philip Lew, Adrienne Lewis, Karin Lowery, Tim Luker, Lee Michelson, Brett Miller, Ari Moskowitz, Jim Muza, Joshua Parker, Allen Pinkham, David and Corinne Promislow, Matt Reinert, Daniel Rhodes, Eric Savage, Craig Schmid, Jason Schultz, Bill Scott, Adam Swartz, Doug Szper, David Treble, Betsy Uzzell, Lea Wallach, Dave Wallman, Kim Ward, John Zalewski

Solutions may be emailed to Thomas.Toce@ey.com. In order to make the solver list, your solutions must be received by Nov. 30, 2013.

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Previous Issue's Puzzle: Hurricanes

I thought this puzzle was straightforward. I was surprised then to learn of all the other hurricanes besides the ones I intended. In 1950, Hurricane Dog plagued Antigua and some other Caribbean Islands. I intended Dennis for that line, but Dog works, too. Interestingly, both Dog and Dennis are not only anagrams but reversals of their words, god and sinned.

An even more interesting coincidence occurs with “yanked/is,” which anagrams not only into the two hurricanes I intended, Sandy and Ike, but also into Daisy and Ken. There was a Daisy in 1958, but it’s the Daisy of 1962 that would qualify as a major Atlantic storm. I can’t find any Hurricane Ken, but there were several Kenneths, some of which were referred to as Kens. They occurred in 1993, 2005, and 2011 and were Pacific storms. I specified Atlantic storms in my instructions, so I could mark Daisy/Ken wrong if I wanted to judge things strictly (which I don’t). I’m too delighted by the Sandy/Ike and Daisy/Ken pairing to do that. These are puzzles, not actuarial exams.

For the record, back when I used to grade actuarial exams, I also tended toward awarding much more partial credit on exam questions than my co-graders. Sandy/Ike is full credit; but Daisy/Ken gets at least 75 percent, in my mind, maybe more. No credit would be something like “Barthomew/Mathilda,” since a) these aren’t anagrams from the poem and b) they aren’t hurricanes.

Here are the hurricanes I intended.

- Line 1—vain = Ivan
- Line 2—air tank = Katrina
- Line 3—And on = Donna
- Line 4—Dean = Edna
- Line 5—set by = Betsy
- Line 6—warned = Andrew
- Line 7—sinned = Dennis
- Line 8—Blaise = Isabel
- Line 9 and 10—yanked is = Ike and Sandy
- Line 11—law I’m = Wilma
- Line 12—lie calm = Camille
- Line 13 and 14—her alacrity = Charley and Rita

