

# THE BACK PAGE

## LOCAL SHOWCASE



Sioux Center players run through the tunnel during team introductions before the girls' state volleyball Class 3A championship game Thursday at Xtream Arena in Coralville. (Savannah Blake/The Gazette)



RIGHT: Players battle at the net during a Class 1A girls' state volleyball tournament quarterfinal match between Springville and Riverside of Oakland on Tuesday at Xtream Arena in Coralville. Springville won in straight sets. (Nick Rohlman/The Gazette)



BOTTOM RIGHT: Ankeny Christian head coach Michele Quick (right) and Ankeny Christian's Katie Quick share a moment after coming back to defeat Gladbrook-Reinbeck during the girls' state volleyball Class 1A championship game Thursday at Xtream Arena. (Savannah Blake/The Gazette)



A tear rolls down the cheek of Heelan's Lawren Volz after the Crusaders' state volleyball tournament quarterfinal loss Monday to Cedar Rapids Xavier at Xtream Arena in Coralville. Xavier won in straight sets, 25-16, 25-13, 25-11. (Nick Rohlman/The Gazette)

## DEAR ABBY

### Couple in group are constant complainers

**D**ear Abby: We have a group of friends who get together most Friday nights. We go out to eat, meet for drinks or gather at one of the group member's homes for dinner and drinks. One person in particular constantly complains about everything every week.

They don't like the restaurant that was chosen, or the food the host prepared or the place the pizza was ordered from. Once, they kept telling the host they wanted to punch the host's son in the face because he was rude to the host on his way out for the evening. This guest's spouse also nitpicks relentlessly. It makes everybody uncomfortable.

It has reached the point that the group doesn't want to get together anymore because of the damper this couple puts on the evening. Is there a polite way to tell this couple their negativity is a drag on the group, and maybe they should seek professional help or learn to keep their mouths shut? — Down With the Downer

**Dear Down:** No, there isn't. But you could stop inviting this particular couple. If you are asked about it, all you have to say is that you grew tired of their constant criticism, which put a damper on the events.

**Dear Readers:** Time flies! Daylight saving time ends at 2 a.m. Sunday. Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour at bedtime tonight. While you're at it, be sure to put fresh batteries in your fire alarms and smoke detectors. — Love, Abby

Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Answers: [www.thegazette.com/puzzles](http://www.thegazette.com/puzzles)

## GAMES

### ACROSS

- 1 "Come \_\_, come all!"
- 4 Marsh
- 9 Close noisily
- 13 No longer here
- 15 Accelerator or brake
- 16 Comic actress Imogene
- 17 Lucie's dad
- 18 Row of shrubs
- 19 Consumer
- 20 Indigestion
- 22 Not as much
- 23 Cooper or Busey
- 24 Maple tree secretion
- 26 Resistant to infection
- 29 Punishes
- 34 Sleep disturber
- 35 Ostracizes
- 36 \_\_ Van Winkle
- 37 Clueless
- 38 Nursery purchase
- 39 Music's Lady \_\_
- 40 Pub pint
- 41 Winter coating
- 42 Walk leisurely
- 43 Clothes closet
- 45 Baffling questions
- 46 Rip off
- 47 \_\_ on; visit
- 48 " \_\_ Heartache"; Bonnie Tyler song
- 51 Auditorium's sound quality
- 56 Part of a house
- 57 \_\_ out; utter impulsively
- 58 Musical symbol
- 60 As easy as falling \_\_ log
- 61 Lariat
- 62 Chew like a beaver
- 63 "Phooey!"
- 64 Word of welcome
- 65 Place for an iris

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13			14	15				16			
17				18				19			
	20			21				22			
		23				24	25				
26	27	28			29	30		31	32	33	
34				35				36			
37				38				39			
40			41					42			
43		44					45				
		46				47					
48	49	50		51	52	53			54	55	
56				57				58		59	
60				61				62			
63				64				65			

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 11/5/22

- 3 As \_\_ as pie
- 4 Globe's shape
- 5 Emotional
- 6 Inserts
- 7 Biblical wise men
- 8 Agreeable
- 9 Carve
- 10 Suffer defeat
- 11 Large spades
- 12 One of the planets
- 14 Repugnance
- 21 Window piece
- 25 Pack animal
- 26 Husband's sibling
- 27 Cash
- 28 Scrooge, for one
- 29 Run after
- 30 Seek prey
- 31 Remove errors
- 32 African nation
- 33 Follows ASPCA advice
- 35 Neat freak's opposite
- 38 Likely
- 39 Baby waterbird
- 41 To and \_\_
- 42 Shed feathers

**Friday's Puzzle Solved**

P	R	I	S	K	I	M	P	O	D	O	R		
T	H	E	E	T	E	N	O	R	R	E	N	O	
A	I	M	S	R	E	T	R	O	S	P	E	C	T
E	L	I	P	I	L	O	T	T	H	R	E	E	
N	O	O	K	S	B	R	A						
O	P	I	A	T	E	P	E	A	N	U	T		
M	A	S	T	S	S	P	R	A	Y	N	A	B	
I	T	C	H	S	A	J	A	K	C	I	T	E	
T	I	E	B	O	S	S	I	H	O	V	E	L	
O	D	I	O	U	S	D	I	V	E	R	T		
M	A	L	R	U	L	E	R						
S	H	O	P	S	S	H	I	R	T	S	E	A	
C	A	P	I	T	U	L	A	T	E	K	I	A	S
A	R	T	S	M	U	L	E	S	I	T	S	A	
M	E	S	H	P	R	E	S	S	D	Y	E		

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### CONCEPTIS SUDOKU

Place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once.

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 11/05

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

**JUMBLE** THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME  
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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

CEEEM  
CANTE  
TNGORS  
DRSUIA

Shouldn't he be grazing?  
Where'd he learn to drive?

IF A MALE BOVINE COULD DRIVE A CAR, YOU'D SEE A ---

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

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: FORCE FLEET WEAKEN SLEIGHT  
Answer: The con man's favorite article of clothing was his — FLEECE SWEATER

**CRYPTO-QUOTE** BY UVC BERJGVZVR

Crypto-Quote is a coded quotation, with each letter in the quotation represented by a code letter. To break the code, begin with single letter words, short words, and words with an apostrophe. As many clues as are needed may be found in Tom Underwood's coded name above.

ZYJE ZJ NIFTJR XVDUHFII,  
P'R XUJFI XJSVER HFXJ,  
DJJI ABPIUT FER AV HFSL.  
— ZVVRT FIIJE

Yesterday's Answer  
"The world wants to be deceived."  
© 2022/ 11-5 By Tom Underwood — Sebastian Brant

**WUZZLES** WORD PUZZLES BY WOOD TOM

Each Wuzzle is a word riddle which creates a disguised word, phrase, name, place, saying, etc. For example, NOON GOOD = GOOD AFTERNOON

**3 WUZZLES BOOKLETS**  
"The Best of Wuzzles" (\$4.00), "More of the Best of Wuzzles" (\$4.50), and "Wuzzles for Kids" (\$4.25) are available, postpaid, from Wuzzles, Box 1141, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406

1. AAAA  
2. A CLASS

Print Your Answers Here:

1. [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]  
2. [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

Today's Answers:  
2. A class apart  
1. Forays

Created by Tom Underwood  
[www.wuzzleking.com](http://www.wuzzleking.com)

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