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# Horoscope

### FOR FRIDAY

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Today you might have to put your emotional considerations and needs second to those of someone else. In other words, you might have to perform a service for someone or help them out. In your free time, you'll appreciate a chance to get better organized and catch up on personal details. Tonight: Learn something.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Your feelings are pretty obvious

today. In fact, some of you are wearing your heart on your sleeve. This is why you will project yourself more forcefully, especially in romance. Be careful not to be so wrapped up in your own feelings that you forget to see what's going on with some

one else. Tonight: Check your finances. GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Today you're happy to retire to your home and relax among familiar surroundings if you can do this. You need a little downtime with good food and drink so that you can ponder profundity or watch daytime TV. You might notice how much your habits control your world. (It happens to all of us.) Tonight: Get rest.
CANCER (June 21-July 22) Today you have a strong need to

speak up about something. You want to be heard by someone. You don't want to get tied up in superficial conversations about the weather that are meaningless. Therefore, pick and choose who you decide to talk to. Find someone willing to listen. Tonight: Work.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You might identify more than usual with

your possessions today, which is why you won't want to part with anything. ("My precious!") For some reason, you might feel you have to defend yourself about something that doesn't really matter. Tonight: Be creative.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Today you have heightened emotions along with increased self-awareness because the Moon is in your sign. You also might feel emotionally vulnerable. This is why you need some nurturing from others and yourself. Focus on your personal needs. Get some pampering. Send out for dark chocolate. Tonight: Relax. LIBRA (Sept. 23-0ct. 22) Even though you're the most sociable sign in the zodiac, today you crave privacy and solitude. This is why you will try to withdraw from the craziness around you so

you can pull your act together. Look for ways to relax in a quiet environment. Tonight: Conversations. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Today your emotional contact with your friends is important. You might want to have a discussion

with a friend or a member of a group. You also might feel more protective and supportive of a friend. You might even feel jealous if that friend pays attention to someone else. Tonight: Check your belongings.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) The Moon is at the top of your

SAGI IARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 27) The Moon is at the top of your chart today, which happens for two and a half days every month. When it occurs, it can encourage scrutiny from others. You are noticed more than usual. In fact, some people will even know personal details about your private life. Tonight: You're strong. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Today you have a strong urge to get away from all this. Travel or explore your own city. Basically, it's important to do something different. Shake up your routine. This way you'll feel stimulated by some tiny adventure! Tonight: Solitude AOUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Issues related to shared property

inheritances, banking matters, insurance situations and the like will be a focus for you today. This stuff can be boring and frequently involves forms and government speak. Do what you can to tie up some loose details. Tonight: Friendships.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Be prepared to go more than halfway when dealing with others today. This is not a big deal. It simply requires a patient, cordial, friendly approach to others. If someone is speaking to you, by all means, listen politely. Tonight You're admired.

2024 KING FEATURES SYNDICATE

# FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20 BRIDGE

# **Bidding quiz**

You are South, not vulnerable can be defeated more than one against vulnerable opponents. The bidding has been:

South	West	North	East
1 NT	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	Pass
?			

What would you now bid with each of the following four hands? 1. ♠ K3 ♥ KJ109 ♦ Q85 ♣ AQJ2 **♠** KQ6 ♥ A4 ♦ J973 ♣ AQJ5

3. ♠ KQ65 ♥ A8 ♦ QJ7 ♣ KQ93 4. ♠ AK4 ♥ J1093 ♦ QJ2 ♣ AQ6

1. Pass. You can't fight city hall. Partner obviously has a bad hand. He passed your opening notrump bid, ran from one-notrump doubled and then passed West's twoheart bid. He might have two or three high-card points, but that's about the most you can expect. It would be wrong to double, since you have no assurance that you can beat two hearts, or to bid two notrump or three diamonds. You stand to lose more than you can gain by taking further action. **2.** Three diamonds. The same

observations about partner's hand apply here also, but with this distribution there is a much firmer basis for competing with a raise to three diamonds. Your potential losers are two dia-

monds, a spade, a heart and a club. It is unlikely that three diamonds

trick, while East-West can probably make two hearts. Obviously, down one at three diamonds, whether doubled or not, is better than two hearts bid and made by the oppo-

**3. Three diamonds.** Here also it is better not to give up. While it is true that partner might not have a face card, it is hardly likely he will be defeated more than one trick. All he needs is five diamonds to the 10-9 to have a chance for eight tricks.

Of course, partner might have a slightly better hand and make nine tricks, but that is not the primary reason for bidding three diamonds. As before, the opponents are likely to make at least two hearts, and you have a chance to stop them without great risk to your side.

4. Pass. You have to stay put in this case, because there is no way of safely contesting the bidding further. Your potential losers in a diamond contract are a spade, one or two hearts, two diamonds and one or two clubs. A raise in diamonds could therefore lead to a two- or three-trick set, which would prove especially expensive if you were doubled.

Another reason for passing is that, with your trump holding and top tricks, you might be able to defeat two hearts.

**Tomorrow:** Crime doesn't pay. ©2024 King Features Syndicate Inc.

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To play sudoku, use logic to fill the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9 only once. Puzzle difficulty increases from Monday to Sunday.

# King Closeic Sudoku

Killg	Class	ac Su	uoku					
3					6			1
8	4	2						
				3	7			
	5		2			1	7	
		8		6	5			
6						4	5	9
	6				9		1	
						7		9
			7			3		4
Diffic	ulty:	***	*			-		12/20

### Answer to previous puzzle 576982314

	၁	/	Ю	19	O		J	ı	4	
	2	1	4	5	6	3	8	9	7	1
	9	3	8	4	7	1	2	6	5	
	6	2	1	8	3	4	5	7	9	Ju.
	4	5	3	2	9	7	1	8	6	Syndicate
	7	8	9	6	1	5	4	3	2	
	1	9	2	7	5	8	6	4	3	Features
	3	6	5	1	4	9	7	2	8	Kino
	8	4	7	3	2	6	9	5	1	02074
Difficulty: ★★★									12/19	,

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