

CRYPTOGRAMS

C-1. Takes on perspective.

APEX DX, Iqaluit NT

"S P O R E S D U S T Y W O R D O D S T P S W O Y A C W I C I W A -
S I T A I I T O ' D P S D A R T Y O N W I U A L O C W I X E -
O U . " = B W S A S T F D I N * K I L T * F R E D B I W A L Z

C-2. Doggone diet!

WABBIT, Montreal PQ

S E N O R H E X U L K O A B J U R E Y J Q X E U H C Y J D K L -
B J X Z L D Z K J I M , H L U O J I Y J N Q I H L U D I K .
(' K V I Z N J U A J N Q J J D L X O X J I Z J F I Z Z .)

C-3. No foot like . . .

ULK, Enid OK

* V J F D U K F S H R D L U Z B L U F D Y R D V Y W F P P ; * V J F -
D U X F P F R U Z B L T X R V B Z Z L F Y B B R P H W U
U H V P P H X L D L N Z J R Y O P .

C-4. Torten, too.

ALF, Arlington MA

* S H T I L N S H B G D : R G A C O L T H A I R S G T B L R G M
C G U L N M T Y M N B H W D Y S G D H T W C O L R M I N Q M N E
* Z N S Q W G T W * E N I G M A ' C * C H U A L .

C-5. Deflater mouse.

TRAZOM, San Francisco CA

R H Y N G O L D H G Q O J N Y Q D Y X G : B S L V Y * G L U G
* W L Z G N R R W G K J Q Y U D R B Q * V R S Y X Z N L X . W R N
K E H G N D S Y U H G V Q , O S Y * A R N L Q * Z R U J X R T .

C-6. And Poirot retired.

WINDRIFT, Bridgeport CT

Y J U G C V M W U Z D M A O Z P I J C A B P V W Z A X F M B
O Q V L U J C P M Y J W B C A B M W Y J U G Z A T B M P R
J C V P Q B M P V M A J F J C A X M .

C-7. Chicken!

WINDJAMMER, Chicago IL

T H U R A P W Y V I J N R V , W H K T A P S , Y K R O D U P R K .
Y O R L C Z V Y P W R L S Z W A K J Y N O A P , B Y D L A Y Z K
C H L S . T Y P H O I D M A R Y Z V Y B Q T Z K L R Y B .

subscribers wrote back after joining. Both times you received rave reviews. . . . The choice of PANTHER is based upon an American Indian belief: the totem . . . a spirit guide, always an animal, is acquired upon reaching adulthood. Either the holy man of the tribe or the youngster spends several days in a type of deep isolated meditation called a spirit quest, its goal a vision that reveals the new adult's totem. It is said that the personality of the person matches the strengths and characteristics of his/her totem animal. This concept led me to choose PANTHER. I am looking forward to meeting Krewe members; it seems I have happily stumbled upon a rather large extended family . . ."

Lawrence Ruff, 129 Lincoln Park Boulevard, Dayton OH 45429-2717, also comes from TC; and Paul V. Thompson, 325 16th Street, Boulder CO 80302-8001, is "indebted to Tough Cryptics for bringing your magazine to my attention."

CHANGES, UPDATES

Al Fine (Donald Sherman): 34 Clarke Drive, East Northport NY 11731. X-2.

Apex Dx (H. Don Allen): P. O. Box 1551 Iqaluit, Northwest Territories, Canada X0A 0H0. "Am currently on a term appointment in the Eastern Arctic—the community is IQALUIT. (Inuit spellings follow—with many exceptions—their own rules.)"

Btirn (Sandy Kutin): 5345 South Harper Avenue, Apt. 201, Chicago IL 60615, (312)-643-4960. kutin@math.uchicago.edu.

Cubist (Chris Long): (908)-253-9703, clong@cnj.digex.com.

OCTOBER FORMS AND X-2.

F-4.

J DO HIGH CHAIR
BAH FAIREST
JOHN CALVIN BREAK
WAXIER EAT
EVICT M

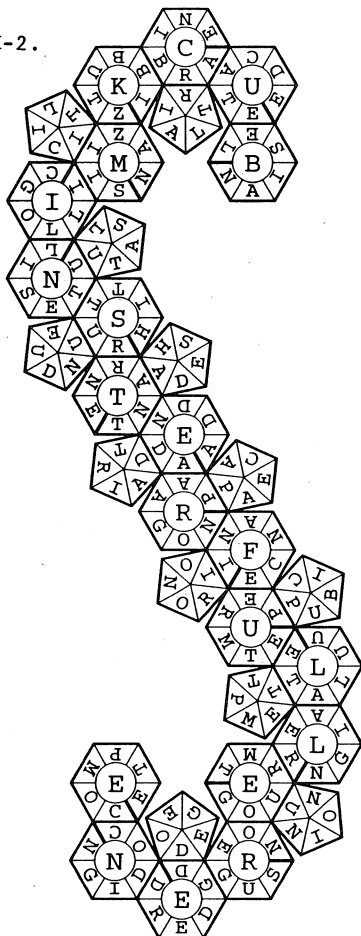
F-1. SINE
LAG
ER
Y

N POA
MURNS F-2.
MONTANA
PUNCHBALL
NORTH DAKOTA
ANABASINS
SNAKING

F-3. S
ROC
SAUES
CANTLES
LYNCHLAWS
NORTH DAKOTA
GUAHARIBO
SLAKENS
INORG
DTS
A

KU.

XY LO CH RO ME
LO LL AR DI SM
CH AR MI NG ER
RO DI NG IT IC
ME SM ER IC AL



The ENIGMA is the monthly magazine of the National Puzzlers' League, a nonprofit educational organization founded in 1883. Membership dues are \$13 the first year and \$11 yearly thereafter; membership includes a subscription to The ENIGMA. Add \$9 for overseas airmail. Add \$9 for large-type ENIGMA (US only). Back issues are \$1. from the editor. Send dues to the treasurer, MERCURY, Joseph J. Adamski, 2507 Almar, Jenison MI, 49428. The editor is SIBYL, Judith E. Bagai, Box 82289, Portland OR 97282.

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SEPTEMBER SOLVERS

The September ENIGMA had 101 flats, 5 forms, 7 crypts, and 6 extras; 52 solution lists were received. CRAX/XEMU, PHILANA/MERCURY, TRAZOM, and WINDJAMMER/QAQAQ had completes; AVIDAN, ELGAR, MERLIN/ERIC/JUNEBUG, R/EDS/WABBIT, and WOODIE/KAPRY KORN had flat completes.

Not accepted: #28-PHONETIC (3); #61-DEO (8) and DIO (4) for DEI; #80-CHATELLE PERSONAL (3); F-2-SCALEGON for UCALEGON (2); F-4-ES for AS (8).

-PHILANA, Solution Editor

ABACUS 68*-3-5; AJDE 18-0-0-0; AL GEBRA 97-0-0-0; ANDREAS 70-0-0-0; ANN DHOW 27-0-4-2; ARBUTUS 100-1-0-0; ATLANTIC 76*-0-0-0; AVIDAN *-4*-0-0; BAMBAM 42-0-4-0; BEACON/HOT/MELIFER 82-1-3-0; BERYL 0-0*-0-0; BLADE 88-0-0-0; BOOKSIE 66-0-0-0; CHARTS 88-1-4-0; CORN COB 57-0-5-5; DADA 54*-*-0-0; ELGAR *-*-0-0; EN 84-1*-4; ERGO 61-0-3-4; HART KING 67*-3-0-0; HONEYDEW 72-4-4-0; IXAXAR 9-0-1-1; JAELTI/CORK 60-4-3-0; JUNCTION 74-2-3-0; LIBRA 70-0-3-3; LUV 8-1-1-0; MANGIE 95-0-5-5; mehitabel 54-0-6-5; MERLIN/ERIC/JUNEBUG *-*-0-0; MUNRO 95-4-4-0; NEWROW 85-4-3-0; NOLA 44-0-3-4; PANACHE 67-0-3-2; PATIENCE 65-0-3-0; PEBBLES 99-4-6-0; QUIP/POI 72-1-4-5; R/EDS/WABBIT *-3*-0-0; SETEC 85-1-2-0; SIOBHAN 46-0-3-4; SISYPHUS 56-0-3-5; SQUIRREL 98-0-5-0; STAX 32-1-1-4; TERRAPIN 50-0-0-4; TREESONG 99*-5-4-0; TYGER/100 DOWN 98-3-4-0; UBIQ 14-0*-0-0; WOODIE/KAPRY KORN *-4*-5-0; XEIPON 52-0-1-0.

SOLVING FREQUENCY/NUMBER OF KUDOS/TOP KUDOS: 1-47/1, 2-46, 3-43/13, 4-25, 5-29/5, 6-43/1, 7-32/7, 8-42/3, 9-29/2, 10-46, 11-30/6, 12-28/2, 13-45/12, 14-47/1, 15-46, 16-44, 17-39/5, 18-32/5, 19-41/4, 20-48/6, 21-37/17, 22-35/3, 23-28/7/2, 24-32/5, 25-36/5, 26-44/2, 27-38/7, 28-25, 29-33/2, 30-47, 31-48/2, 32-41/9, 33-37/2, 34-27/1, 35-39/1, 36-48, 37-20, 38-24/3, 39-22/2, 40-38/5, 41-27/3, 42-45/1, 43-43/8/1, 44-29/7, 45-36/9, 46-40, 47-42/2, 48-32/5, 49-22/1, 50-34/3, 51-23/7, 52-39/1, 53-40, 54-33/4/1, 55-30/1, 56-35/2, 57-26/19/6, 58-31/1, 59-32/5+1, 60-36/5+3, 61-30/1, 62-28/1, 63-37/3, 64-28/4, 65-41/4, 66-45, 67-29, 68-27, 69-30, 70-40/4, 71-43/2, 72-34/2, 73-47/1, 74-37/1, 75-27/8, 76-26, 77-38/17/4, 78-28/2/1, 79-41/1, 80-13/2, 81-17/2, 82-29/2, 83-43, 84-43/9, 85-30/1, 86-29/1, 87-44/5, 88-48, 89-49, 90-47, 91-39/2/1, 92-44/12, 93-26, 94-29/8, 95-42, 96-44/1, 97-40/1, 98-48, 99-49/4, 100-46, 101-42/4. FORMS: 1-16/2, 2-24/1, 3-25/6/1, 4-15/1, 5-19/3. CRYPTS: 1-41, 2-39/1, 3-37/1, 4-24/2, 5-17, 6-12/1, 7-12/3/1. EXTRAS: 1-41, 2-41, 3-32/4, 4-39/1, 5-28/19/8, 6-34. ADDITIONAL KUDOS: Convention Memories-*/4, Con-Fab-*/4, How I Spent My Summer Vacation-*/4. [* not tabulated. Numbers preceding +s are multi-part kudos/top kudos.]

SEPTEMBER FAVORITES (! means top favorite): ABACUS-21, 24, 33, 75, 81, 92, F-3! AL GEBRA-5, 13, 32, 33, 38, 48, 51, 54, 77, 91. ANDREAS-5, 27, 44, 51, 59, 77, X-5! ANN DHOW-40, 47, 99. ARBUTUS-13, 22, 23, 25, 29, 32, 44, 49, 51, 57!, 59-60, 77, 84, 92, X-5. ATLANTIC-3, 23, 29, X-5. AVIDAN-9, 21, 42, 44, 50, 51, 62, 63, 78, X-5, C-7! BOOKSIE-19, 20, 43, 45, 54!, 77. CHARTS-6, 11, 38, 44, 50, 57, 72, X-3, X-5! CORN COB-7, 13, 19, 21, 32, 45, 57!, 63, 65, 70, 71, 72, 84, 87, 92, F-2, F-4. CRAX-8, 12, 25, 27, 48, 57, 59-60, 64, 77, 87, 94, X-3, X-5, Convention Memories, Con-Fab, Summer Vacation. DADA-3, 17, 24, 26, 43, 47, 87, 94, X-3, X-5. DANDJR-X-5! ERGO-3, 7, 27, 99. HART KING-3, 11, 13, 40, 57, 58. HOT-13, 21, 41, 45, 48, 57, 77, 84. IXAXAR-23! JAELTI/CORK-7, 21, 22, 74, 94, 101, X-5!, C-3. KAPRY KORN-13, 17, 21, 24, 41, 44, 51, 75, 94, C-4. mehitabel-3, 43, 45, 50, 56, 59-60, 77, 84, X-5! MELIFER-20, 57, 79, X-5. MERCURY-23, 77, 87, 92. MERLIN-13, 18, 20, 21, 57, 77, 86, 92, 94, F-3, F-5. MUNRO-7, 34, 39, 51, 63, 64, X-5! NEWROW-5, 21, 57!, 81, F-3, F-5, X-4. NOLA-9, 17, 25, 84. 100 DOWN-3, 11, 13, 18, 20, 25, 26, 27, 44, 45, 57, 71, 75, 77!, X-3, X-5. PANACHE-11, 40, 57!, 92. PATIENCE-78! PEBBLES-3, 8, 21, 22, 52, 57!, 82, X-5. PHILANA-3, 5, 13, 20, 21, 27, 32, 57, 59-60, 77, 94, X-5! QAQAQ-24, 65, 70, 77, 92, F-3. QUIP/POI-3, 13, 17, 18, 21, 32, 43, 77!, 92, Convention Memories, Con-Fab, Summer Vacation. R/EDS-12, 23, 35, 45, 57!, 60, 80, 92. SETEC-3, 21, 57, 64, 70, 75, 101, X-5, Convention Memories, Con-Fab, Summer Vacation. SIOBHAN-3, 40, 56, 84, 96, 97, 99, 101, C-2. TRAZOM-5, 8, 13, 21, 27, 31, 32, 43, 48, 54, 57, 59-60, 70, 75, 87, 91!, 94, X-5, C-7. TREESONG-19, 21, 24, 32, 43, 57, 75, 77, 82, 92, F-3, F-5, X-5, Convention Memories, Con-Fab, Summer Vacation. TYGER-3, 7, 11, 14, 17, 21, 27, 31, 32, 40,

found! . . . If that first phrase is in NI (wouldn't surprise me—'electrostatic precipitator' is IOC), I'll happily allow you to modify line 2 to include it. But a completely IOC verse has its own special charm."

X-2—The word in the centers of the hexagons is BUCKMINSTERFULLERENE. Xemu cites this section of the "Carbon" entry from Grolier's American Academic Encyclopedia:

"In the 1980's scientists determined that another carbon allotrope conjectured for some years as a possibility does indeed occur: carbon atoms linked to form a more or less spherical molecule. A whole family of allotropes, with differing numbers of atoms, is now known to exist. The first to be identified and the most symmetrical of the family, with 60 atoms and 32 sides (20 hexagons and 12 pentagons), was nicknamed 'buckyball' and thereafter formally named 'buckminsterfullerene,' because it resembles the geodesic domes of American inventor R. Buckminster Fuller. Spherical carbon molecules as a group are called fullerenes. Buckminsterfullerene is now being produced in marketable quantities for use by scientists. Its occurrence in carbon-containing materials on Earth may yet prove to be widespread, and it is suggested as a fairly common interstellar molecule. Its superconducting properties and its potential for opening new areas of chemistry have made study of the 'buckyball' one of the most rapidly expanding areas of research."

KU-1. "Charminger" is entered under "steam" in an OED 2 citation.

NOVEMBER CORRIGENDA AND COMMENT

16—Quotation mark begins line 1. Hyphen after "than" in line 7? 26—*ADMEASURES Q, probably. 33—*FINE Day or FINE day. 45—Let's try a few palindromes without giving the vowels. 46—I much prefer. 52—Treesong notes: Russian, not Greek. There's no way to tell from any MW entry or cross-reference. It was Greek to me. 53—No comma. 54—Or: metathesis. 57—(8) (And see below on Dec 2.) 58—Wabbit's base (more next time). 84—D is either * or + usage. A new tag. C-1—Comma after CRDI. C-3—* third word. F-4, 7D—lily maid. But the composer had "lady maid" and the forms checker okayed it. So maybe it's good too :-). F-5—9D is just "Make." X-6—10A was meant to be "Dad." KU-2, part D: that's a car, not a cat in the tree. (The burnout creeps in on little car feet.)

DECEMBER PUZZLES

Fewer flats may leave you a little time for seasonal events; we have some real challenges, though, especially among the forms and extras. No cross-word grid, but two cryptic puzzles of note. Have good holidays!

50 Years Ago—I've updated the titles: I was a Terminal Elision, 2 a Rebus Reversal. In 1943, the cueword for 2's 7-letter answer was SIX. Composer, editor, and flats editor didn't notice. (I think I feel better!)

4—Hot: "Seeing that you did not reveal the vowels in a recent palindrome, I decided it is a viable flat form after all. I think [mine is] fairly easy . . . Of course, there is something slightly anachronistic about the story, but hey." 5 and 6—If necessary, consult a child. 8 and 61—Xemu/Beacon. 10—Tyger/Windjammer. 16—Brillig/Windjammer. 22—Of course the saying really has a causal "and": feed the cold and thereby starve—get rid of the fever. ("Spare the rod and spoil the child" has the same construction.) But not in this flat. 23—Ai/Mangie.

28—XEIPON: "Let me give thanks to Merlin, Qaqaq, and FaRO for helping me with the words, and a special thanks to Mangie for the abominable crooks and other dazzling suggestions. (A bomb enable?)" He says FIVE applies to people in OED; it seems not in NI2. 30—Read it again! 34 and 53—Tyger/100 Down. 37—Xemu/Qaqaq. 45-46—XEIPON says Bugs Dorsal is a gangster of Icelandic heritage. 48—WRIIT is a variant spelling. 49—Bert!/Beacon. 50—Blammesk/Mangie. 60—The adjective form is in IOC.

68-69—Noholds Bard signed one letter "Yours, BOLD, HARD SON; BRASH OLD DON; BAD, OLD (HORNS); HARD OLD SNOB (??)"—presumably some of these are antigrams. X-5—One clue here is an indirect transposal; 16 is NI3 usage; more hints next time. Hints and Easies—page 15.

65. SUBER (7)

XBC

66. SUBER (*5 *4) (not MW)

RXJ

A top post in the XBC
Was held by RFK,
But that was back in LXI—
Today it's RXJ!
=MR. TEX, Los Angeles CA

67. ENIGMA (6)

I love to ride the range
And set stray dogies right,
And my two halves may seem to say
"Bovine hermaphrodite."
=RAIN MAN, Williamstown NC

A N A G R A M S

68. IS IT BULL I YAP?

69. FIT, DUE TO TIN ENTRAILS [10 9]
=NOHOLDS BARD, Arlington VA

70. WARNS, THEN, AT RIGHT ROAD
[3 8 3 6]

=AB STRUSE, New York NY

71. O, SMITES SCHOLARS (1 14)

72. OR, WIRED

=TRAVV, Klamath Falls OR

73. AM LIRA'S ITEM

74. READS "EQUAL" [6 4] (NI3)

KU-1. I.D. IS FLESH, I.E. (*5 *6)
=NON SEQUITUR, Norwalk CT

75. HIT SERIES' END . . . OH,
COFFEE, PAL? (3 5 7 2 *6)
=TE-ZIR-MAN, Reading PA

76. "HELLO"
(HE CAN PESTER, BE CON)
(3 7 5-6)

A N T I G R A M

77. A TOUGH BR. DIRECTOR? NAH!

(*7 *12)
=WABBIT, Montreal PQ

F O R M S

F-1. HALFSQUARE

1. An aural artist
 2. Undivided
 3. Tone-producing apparatus used as a fog signal
 4. Articles
 5. Containers
 6. Wrath
 7. Yes
 8. Constant integer
- =ROM DOS, Whiting NJ

F-2. PYGMY HOURGLASS

Across:

1. "See you tomorrow" (RH2)
2. Without stipules
3. Formerly (archaic)
4. Mineral isomorphous with helvite
5. Obsolete variant of horologe (OED)
6. A dance in slow waltz time
7. ESEES (OED)
8. Rural address abbreviations
9. Library symbol for Kapiolani Community College in Honolulu, HI (AIAD, 8th ed.)
10. Scottish version of "eye"
11. Third letter
12. Variant of "lily" (OED)
13. Twisted band by which a heraldic crest is joined to the helmet
14. HIRTIC (Century Dict. Supp.)
15. Silybum
16. Large flame-heated oven
17. NATADELOS (Cram's Atlas)
18. Ornamental shirt part that can be slipped on or off
19. Elm in Boston on which unpopular persons were hanged in effigy during the Stamp Act agitation

Down

1. Fifty
 2. Sol-fa syllable
 3. Head
 4. Diet
 5. Bishop's headdress
 6. Annoyed persistently (reformed spelling)
 7. Wearily
 8. Small arboreal parrot of Australasia
 9. One who shortens
 10. Deeply infatuated (American Thesaurus of Slang; 9C-findable)
 11. A long way off (Roget's International Thesaurus)
 12. Welsh onion
 13. Successions of notes as in bugle calls
 14. Little monkeys
 15. Josiah G. MUTIGA (Contemporary Poets, 1970)
 16. Constituent of portland-cement clinker
 17. Reputation
 18. Greek goddess personifying foolhardy and ruinous impulse
 19. Originally called
 20. Grade
- =MERLIN, Bismarck ND



8. LETTER BANK (8, *7 6)

You have ten piggies, dear. I love them all.
They're soft and cute and wiggle at my touch.
And yet, I do not love them quite so much
As that sloughed skin that forms a shell-like
wall

On top of each fair digit. I would bawl
If I were told they'd someday slip my clutch.
Your footsies' clippings, even, move me such
That, yea, I kiss the floor on which they
fall.

Irony, is it not, to contemplate
Each cell that dies excites my love anew.
(And now I'm almost done. Is this not great?
I never thought I'd write a MUCH on FEW.
But now I know: don't underestimate
What love—and Xemu's bases—make you do.)
=XEBEC, Brightson NZ

9. REBUS [7-8]

P Y

Ah, our Wabbit is THIS—broke
and hutchless.
Once she had lots of dough; now
she's much less.
=WABBIT, Montreal PQ

10. THIRD-LETTER CHANGES (5)

An ALPHA every New Year's Eve,
Dumb Dora chooses to believe
Her BETA, who implores, "Please wait
Till Sis and Junior graduate,
And then I'll leave my ball and
chain."
(Said wife is now enceinte again—
And so is Dora.) She's a GAMMA.
Her spirits DELTA. What a drama!
=TYMER, Hobo NL

11. LETTER BANK (6, 9)

Although in most respects he was a
highly decent man,
The tenor was unduly fond of
whiskey, beer, and porter,
And so he passed away, his liver
eaten up by LONGER.
Now, he sings above, in Heaven, with
the holy angel SHORTER.
=SISYPHUS, Austin TX

12. REVERSAL (6)

The L. A. riots shook this town and
left it smashed to bits,
But slowly every shop and home
restores, rebuilds, REKNITS.
The city's in the pink again. I've
never seen it pinker!
There's never been a better time to
come and be a STINKER.
=MR. TEX, Los Angeles CA

13. TRANSPOSALS (6)

'Twas the night before
Christmas
And quite plain to see
I needed to ONE some help
Trimming the tree.

My husband came in with
A twinkle in his eye.
He said, "Don't worry,
honey,
It's easy as pie."

The carols were playing,
Things going just fine,
Till he suddenly fractured
An ornament of mine.

So I gave him the TWO—
No harm there I could see.
We could FOUR to the
carols,
Join in, or stay THREE.
=LUV, Lynn MA

14. TWO-WORD DELETION (9)

"Is that Tampico fiber hanging near
the Christmas tree?"
"It's WHOLE, you dope! For kissing!"
"Well, it looks like ONE TWO
THREE."
=TREESONG, West Chester PA

15. ENIGMATIC REBUS (7)

(reading has non-MW usage)

Reluctantly this morn I rose!
It's Christmas Eve! The radios
Are gushing some moronic tune—
A carol! I can't wait till June!
The silly season drives me dotty!
I'm fed up with the whole MENOTTI.
=CRAX, San Jose CA

16. TRANSPOSAL (3 *4, 7)

(THREE *FOUR = NI2 under *4,
NI3-findable)

Come visit us, we all implore,
But when you're going through THREE
*FOUR,
We recommend you do not drive it.
Take cab or bus, or use your feet
To skirt those SEVENS in the street.
(Our civic pride says "Keep this
private.")
=BRILLJAMMER, Chicago IL

17. REVERSED FIFTH-LETTER CHANGE (6)
(A = + usage)

An A aboard Nelson's Victory
Came from talented personnel:
He whistled an air and played the B
While dancing a hornpipe as well.
=BEAGLE, Houghton MI

45. ACROSTICAL ENIGMA (10) (A = +)

46. ACROSTICAL ENIGMA (11) (D = *)

A. Stan certainly will steal your boot—
It's to his liking; so's your suit.

B. Galling Stan's unlawful, mates—
Filched Franklin Mint's Bugs Dorsal plates!

C. A look at lunch. In pub, Stan took
A roasting snook from cook—the crook.

D. A raft is snatched from Russian river—
He has great power to deliver.

Stan's a one-man crime committee.
<<Hey! What's happened to my city!>>
=XEIPON, CO

47. CHARADE (7-6) (N12)

"The sun floats up the sky,
Like TOTAL Liberty,"
Wrote Shelley, and I fly
Atop his imagery.

I cannot write great verse,
But at least I still can read it.
My eyesight's getting worse,
ONE it's still there when I need it.

My back, however, pains me;
It TWO again tonight.
The verse by Shelley gains me
The soothing balm of flight.
=MERLIN, Bismarck ND

48. BEHEADMENT (7)

"Get some proof" is the RIT
when you sue,
For "assume" is an ass of me
'n' "u".
From the court get a WRIT—
A court order, to wit.
"The law is a ass" may be true.
=POLLY, Sarasota FL

49. CONSONANTIC (7* 4*, 9)
(SEVEN FOUR = not MW)

Star-Kist had an ad campaign that
featured SEVEN FOUR,
A fish who tried to masquerade as
high-class albacore.
"Sorry!" Star-Kist always said, as
they turned down that NINE.
The ads were discontinued in the
seventies' decline;
But someone said, "Let's bring them
back! Why let ads go to waste?"
Their new cartoon, though ("Dolphin
Dan") showed questionable taste.
=BERCON!, Tucson AZ

50. PHONETIC FALSE PAST TENSE
(10, 6 4) (TWO = not MW)

Heard the latest re Uncanny?
And her problem with her man? He,
As she tells it, bought some ONE,
then
Downed it, nearly was undone then.
So Uncanny's implicated,
Tried, convicted, carcerated.
Staunch attorneys, though, report
The matter to the highest court.
Oh, ye TWO, have mercy! Show it
To our dear ENIGMA poet.
Judges Ginsburg and O'Connor,
Clear her name, restore her honor!
=BLA'MANGE, Eastalo PY

51. LETTER BANK (7, *6 5)

Gianni goes for minestrone,
Johnny loves burgoo;
Ivan slurps a bowl of ONE,
And Ian has some TWO.
=XEMU, Bridgewater NJ

52. LETTER BANK (6, *2'1-2'1-2-3)
(A = 6)

Like Qaqaq and Ulk, I've been
spinally anguished,
So I flew to China for puncture
that's acu-
But the skill of the doctor who
poked me had languished—
Since I've been to A, I just feel
(my poor back!) Q.
=BEACON, Tucson AZ

53. FALSE ITERATION (4, 6)

As I walked out on the streets of
Laredo,
I met an old woman with MORE GUYS
to sell.
Now, I'm not some GUY who just
stepped off the slow train:
My name's Ralph McLauren. I know
textiles well.
Her claim as she showed them was
"Hecho a mano,"
But "Made in Taiwan" seemed an
after refrain.
=TYED DOWN, Hobomont JY

54. REBUS [5 6]

X NT

She's very proud of all the things
displayed there in her SCORE.
In fact, she's never had them out in
twenty years or more—
She serves her guests on stuff that
came right from the Goodwill
Store.
=ULK, Enid OK

28. BALTIMORE TRANSDLETION (11) (TWO, FIVE = NI2; THREE = '3-*6'1, coinage;
FOUR, NINE, ELEVEN = NI3; TEN = NI3 var. spelling of 10C word ALL)
Finale to September 1992 #2 and August 1993 #47

"Dipentadecyl Ketones and the Salmine Combination":
The title of our Guard's extremely learned dissertation.
Thus Guard's become a Doc. He weds the Nurse. They're quite a fixture
(She's dazzled by his knowledge of that fancy clotting mixture).
They're FIVE of E.R. methods, adding safety and expedience;
But paradise is lost (as in 'Of man's first disobedience . . .').
The fruit—the Sterling Starling—has been put in a museum
(For things before the sightless bard). The medics come to see him.
The Doc and Nurse both say, "This place for all things THREE absurd."
But little do they know that Fate has dealt the final word.
For Prince has had his goons embed a bomb between two books;
This FOUR once made, the SIX depart—abominable crooks!
The Prince, both bland and ONE, has not a shred of human worth;
NINE wrinkles gird his awful mouth that laughs with evil mirth.
"The artifact is mine!!!" But the explosion cuts him short;
The TWO and he land in a store where things are sold for sport.
Nylon webbing (TEN and ALL) save medics as they flip,
But Prince's wounds are grievous, and the bird escapes his grip.
The bleeder quotes Lord *EIGHT to say his final toodle-oo:
"Die, my dearest doctor, that's the last thing I shall do!"
Doc tries to save the bleeder with his TWO enriched with SEVEN
In vain: A final ghastly gurgle proves life's not ELEVEN.
=XEIPON, Colorado Springs CO

29. REPEATED-LETTER DELETION (6)

Since he's training that pup as a
LONG for his hunts,
He won't let others pet it—no, not
even once.
He explains: "You might SHORT what
I'm teaching him, and
Later on he might miss an important
command."
=ULK, Enid OK

30. TRANSAD (6 9) (transposed
charade; e.g., ONE = soul;
TWO = into; WHOLE = solution)

I sought with misgivings the
mystical hypnotist—
Wanted to sample his ALL.
What a disappointing jerk—er—
Just a Postal Service worker—
Ill-kempt
Near-spent
He was sure the SECOND FIRST I can
recall.
When I finish delivering all of
these letters,
I'll throttle him, once and for all!
=NEWROW, Brookline MA

31. TRANSPOSAL (*8, 8) (DAY, NIGHT)
(DAY = +)

Each DAY I sing a Scottish song,
(Hint: "Annie Laurie" isn't right.)
I drink champagne all evening long,
That's aged in casks of oak and
NIGHT.
=XEMU, Bridgewater NJ

32. PALINDROME (2, *1. *6'1 4 3 *6)
(first *6 = not MW usage)

S. J. Raphael has a son, born in
September.
That makes the lad a Libra, if you
care.
P. Donahue has sons who were both
born in December.
That makes each one a Capricorn,
I swear.
Montel Williams has a baby (what a
lucky man!),
A Pisces, who was born back in the
Spring.
And in August, babes were born to
the guy who fought the Klan.
PALINDROME (if you believe that sort
of thing).
=SISYPHUS, Austin TX

33. LETTER BANK (8, 6 7)

Not one of us is SHORT,
As we hear your joyful song,
That you're happy with your life,
Oh, sweet blue-feathered LONG.
=WABBIT, Montreal PQ

34. FALSE ITERATION (3, 5)

The subway flooded. It's closed
off.
I creep home on this ONCE.
ENIGMA's got me gridlocked too
(I feel like such a dunce).
I cannot solve this TWICE at all:
I'll guess (who knows not, punts).
=TYED DOWN, Hobomont JY