

'Straight Up'

Steven: My adopted daughter was married last month. Her husband is a medical student and she works at the University, so I'd like to help them out as much as possible. Would it be okay for me to stop by every day to do a little cleaning and catching up on the latest gossip? My husband says to forget about it because they need their privacy.

I'm only trying to be a good mother. What's so terrible? *Mom in Winston-Salem*

Dear Mom: I understand your concern for your daughter, but dropping by each day — especially if your visits are a surprise — is not going to help their relationship. I agree with your husband. The apron strings have been cut so give

them some space. Loving and caring often means staying away. If they need you they'll be in touch. Don't be a pest.

Steven: I'm really worried about my boyfriend. He got fired from his job a couple of weeks ago, and instead of making every effort to find a new one he sits home planning his revenge on his ex boss. He bought this book which lists different ways to get back at those who hurt you. Most of the schemes are against the law. I can easily understand his harsh feelings for the man, but don't you think he'd be better off using his energies to do something a bit more positive? How can I convince him to give up the funny business? *Puzzled Pal*

Dear PP: There's an old English saying which goes, "Forgetting of a wrong is the best revenge." I strongly suggest telling your boyfriend that anything he does, however innocent it may seem, probably will backfire and put him in a situation he'll highly regret. If he simply cannot resist the urge to tell this man what he thinks of him, he can wait until he lines up another job and then send a

note to the guy announcing his new position. It's a harmless (childish, too) way of saying, "Just because you didn't want me doesn't mean everyone feels the same way." Get rid of the book.

Steven: What's the problem if I refuse to stand for the national anthem at a football game? A man sitting behind me said I was breaking the law. I think I was simply exercising my rights of freedom of choice and speech. Any comments? *Ken G.*

Dear Ken: No, you weren't breaking any laws. However, I suggest that you spend future afternoons enjoying the salt mining matches in the Soviet Union.

Steven: I'm preparing a short cover letter with several resumes I'll soon be sending out. What color ink should I sign my name with? I was thinking of using purple or green so my stuff would stand out from the crowd. *Jobhunter*

Dear Jobhunter: Use black or blue unless your resume also includes coloring books from your childhood.

Comic Relief

A friend was taking her Ph.D. oral exam at UCLA. Although nervous, she managed to answer all the questions the committee put to her. When the ordeal finally ended, she turned in relief to leave the room and discovered there were two doors. She quickly chose one and walked through it, only to find herself in an enormous utility closet. As she stood pondering her choices — go back into the room or wait until she heard the examiners leave — the door to the closet opened, and the entire committee joined her.

During a faculty meeting, the speaker jokingly announced, "I've some good news and some bad news. The good news is that a student survey has

revealed the coeds here find middle-aged professors sexy.

"The bad news," he continued, "is that they think middle age is twenty-five."

At Southwest Missouri State University, I saw this message posted on a classroom door: "The Advanced Argumentation Class Will Meet in Craig Hall, Room 312, Today." Below the message two students had written:

"will not
will too
will not
will too
will not!
will too!"

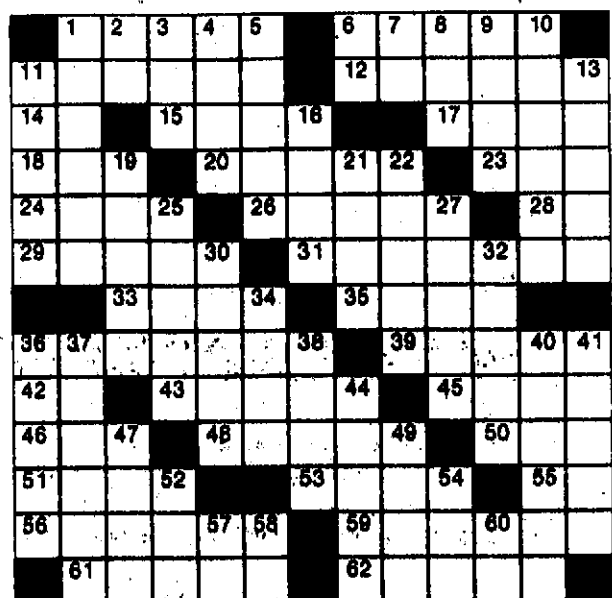
- ACROSS
- 1 Royal
 - 6 Haughty
 - 11 Remembrance
 - 12 Mistreats
 - 14 King of Bashan
 - 15 Soil
 - 17 Rockfish
 - 18 Blockhead
 - 20 Transactions
 - 23 The sun
 - 24 Narrow, flat board
 - 26 Slumber
 - 28 Symbol for tantalum
 - 29 Weird
 - 31 Provided, prepared and served food
 - 33 Periods of time
 - 35 Nerve network
 - 36 Declares
 - 39 Eel fisherman
 - 42 Parent: colloq.
 - 43 Tasteless liquid food
 - 45 Rant
 - 46 Shoshonean Indian
 - 48 Exciting stories: colloq.
 - 50 Still
 - 51 Father
 - 53 Ivy League university
 - 55 Symbol for nickel
 - 56 Mistakes
 - 59 Courteous
 - 61 City in Germany
 - 62 Chairs

- 1 Feast
- 2 Printer's measure
- 3 Deity
- 4 Dry
- 5 Old musical instruments
- 6 Mr. Kettle
- 7 Symbol for rubidium
- 8 Possessive pronoun
- 9 Employs
- 10 Signify
- 11 Member of deer family
- 13 Dinner course
- 16 Soapstone
- 19 Journeys forth
- 21 Shakespearian king
- 22 Mediterranean vessel
- 25 Wearies
- 27 Man's name
- 30 Befimes

- 32 Kind of foot race
- 34 Portico
- 36 Entertain goddess
- 37 Sarcasm
- 38 Agile
- 40 Occurrences
- 41 Bind again
- 44 Breaks suddenly
- 47 Sins
- 49 Wild plum
- 52 Dawn goddess
- 54 Guido's high note
- 57 Note of scale
- 58 Symbol for tin
- 60 Pronoun

CROSS WORD PUZZLE

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