ANSWERS AND SOLUTIONS

Websterisms: In Search of Noah's Headwords   **Arthur Schulman**

anaconda, android, asteroid, barbecue, belles-lettres, beverage, bob, boggle, caboose,
caravan, catchup, master of ceremonies, chaos, condescension, cretin, dandy, debacle,
dilettante, duds, egoist, empiricism, escapade, evolve, fossil, freethinker, gnome,
guitar, hypochondriac, imbecility, jungle, junk, kickshaw, luscious, museum, nest,
onanism, overseer, pagoda, picknick, poker, Polynesia, pragmatist, prestigious, pudenda,
rendezvous, soothsaying, stateswoman, text-book, ticket, Yankee.

New Word Recreations   **Oscar Thumpbindle**

PRY, QOPH, WON, ZEN, QUIZ, GLUM, GOLFS, FRY
SIXTY   HYMN
XED   BRAWN
COD, TUCK, JUGS, STAB, BIKE, GIVER, VAT, JAB

Start at O = COTE and continue SOME, SUCH, CANT, RAID, TROD, THIN, BUSH,
MULE, SPAM, BURP, CRIB, LIMN, POND, BALD, HELP. Notice that the connecting
edges spell, in order, OSCAR THUMPBINDLE.

Kickshaws   **Louis Phillips**
Free-Range Vocabulary: 1-G, 2-A, 3-B, 4-E, 5-I, 6-F, 7-H, 8-D, 9-J, 10-C

Octopi   **Mike Keith**
                                                                Diana Keith
The first word of the poem has 3 letters, the next 1 letter, the next 4 letters, and so on. If these
numbers are written out in order they "spell out" the first 768 digits of the number π (3.14...),
with the additional conventions that a 10-letter word represents the digit 0 while words of more
than 10 letters represent two consecutive digits (e.g., a 12-letter word means "1 2"). The total
number of digits represented, 768, is divisible by eight, so as a further constraint each of the
eight stanzas contains exactly 768/8 = 96 digits. Pi in eight pieces = Octo-pi, hence the title.

*Diana Keith is the senior-in-high-school daughter of Mike Keith. "Octopi" may be the longest
Pi mnemonic on record. I am aware of a 402 decimal "story" that appeared in "The
Mathematical Intelligencer" in 1986 (vol. 8, p. 56). – The editor*

Crostic Puzzle

Julie Sussman

...if particles didn't interact with each other, things would be
incredibly simple. Physicists would like such a world because
then they could calculate the behavior of all particles easily
(if physicists in such a world existed, which is a doubtful
proposition).

|			
A.	Haws	N.	Escutcheons
B.	Osculations	O.	Litchis
C.	Flutists	P.	Elliptically
D.	Schubert	Q.	Sixty-five
E.	Tow Low	R.	California
F.	Addicts	S.	Humidity
G.	Dodecahedron	T.	Epiphytic
H.	Thistledown	U.	Ricin
I.	Edwin Hubble	V.	Bathyscaphes
J.	Ribose	W.	Applaud
K.	Gurupi	X.	Crater Lake
L.	Owlish	Y.	Hitches
M.	Die Forelle		

A Bouquet for Gardner

Jeremiah Farrell
Thomas Rodgers

Puzzling Pelargoniums. If there are n PELARGONIUMS, $n - 2$ of them
are red, $n - 2$ of them are yellow, and $n - 2$ of them are green. Thus,
$n \geq (n - 2) + (n - 2) + (n - 2) = 3n - 6$, or $n = 3$. Implicit in the puzzle
is that there are only three colors, implying that, in fact, $n = 3$.
(Otherwise, technically, there could be just two PELARGONIUMS,
of some other color.)

Hamiltonian circuit puzzle. One solution is MAR-RAG-RUG-SUR-SUN-
SON-ION-OIL-LIE-PIE-PIN-PUN-PUG-PEG-AGE-ALE-LAM-MOL-
MOS-MRS.

Hexagonal prism problem. The best set of words we found is GLAMOR,
SUPINE, GAIN, LUNG, PLUM, POEM, ROSE, and AIRS. (See Fig-
ure 8.)
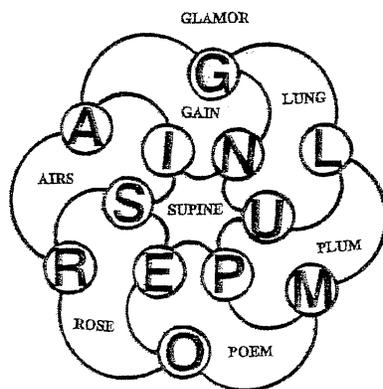
Nim-like game. Our hint for the Nim-type game is to take advantage
of the symmetry of the board, keeping in mind the complement of
your opponent's play. For further insights on this kind of strategy,
see Gardner's "The Game of Hex" [1, Chapter 8] and "Dodgem and
Other Simple Games" [10, Chapter 12].

Punk Whiz 6   **Anil**

1. airstrip 2. bearer bond 3. doing things (*or* doings) by half 4. go over hir head 5. Get out of my face!
6. open-minded 7. out of circulation 8. thick as thieves 9. Don't waste your breath. 10. easy chair 11. future tense 12. ghetto blaster 13. Keep looking up! 14. liability 15. life 16. lowest common denominator 17. make good time 18. master race 19. natural history 20. on the fence 21. on the other hand
22. kick the habit 23. king crabs 24. knock 'em dead 25. huff and puff 26. industrial relations 27. Lie back and think of England. 28. lost in thought 29. money talks 30. high-fidelity 31. homophobe 32. hydrant 33. let your hair down 34. lowers 35. penny wise, pound foolish 36. pinking shears

What's In? – A Name! – Part IV   **Steven Kahan**

1.	ab<u>NORMA</u>l	21.	<u>TODD</u>ler
2.	ad<u>VANCE</u>	22.	<u>SHARI</u>ng
3.	a<u>BRAD</u>e	23.	<u>JULIE</u>nne
4.	b<u>ROCCO</u>li	24.	nu<u>CLEO</u>lus
5.	ca<u>TARA</u>ct	25.	<u>HOMER</u>oom
6.	ch<u>AMBER</u>	26.	pil<u>LARS</u>
7.	des<u>TROY</u>	27.	<u>LIZA</u>rd
8.	d<u>IRENE</u>ss	28.	<u>MATT</u>ress
9.	<u>MACK</u>erel	29.	re<u>TALIA</u>te
10.	es<u>CAROL</u>e	30.	<u>MASON</u>ry
11.	<u>RICK</u>ety	31.	sh<u>ADELE</u>ss
12.	f<u>RENE</u>tic	32.	si<u>MILES</u>
13.	h<u>ALVIN</u>g	33.	sl<u>AVERY</u>
14.	<u>MARC</u>hing	34.	s<u>INGA</u>long
15.	his<u>TORI</u>c	35.	str<u>ANGEL</u>y
16.	h<u>ELIOT</u>rope	36.	supre<u>MACY</u>
17.	in<u>FERN</u>o	37.	ta<u>TAMI</u>
18.	inter<u>FAITH</u>	38.	<u>THEA</u>ter
19.	jalap<u>ENOS</u>	39.	va<u>GRANT</u>
20.	j<u>ELLIE</u>s	40.	vend<u>ETTA</u>