WEBSTERIAN HIGH-SCORING SCRABBLE

KYLE CORBIN
Raleigh, North Carolina

The article "High-Scoring Scrabble Revisited" in the May 1981 Word Ways presented a set of rules for determining in a Scrabble Brand Crossword Game (hereafter referred to simply as Scrabble) what words are to be allowed. Applying these rules, a single Scrabble move of 1757 points was devised, based on words in Webster's New International Dictionary, Second Edition. The article further stated that it would be an excellent idea to find the highest scores for the entire range of Merriam-Webster dictionaries to show their variation with dictionary size. This has now been done for three Websterian dictionaries: 1762 points using Webster's New International Dictionary, Second Edition (1958); 1665 points using Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary (1980); 1510 points using the Merriam-Webster (Pocket) Dictionary (1974).

PREACKNOWLEDGED

FORAMINIFERA
O
T
d
L
GRUBBERY
UNEQUIVALVED
ETA
O
ER
RO
X
SWAMI
TO
IDE
O
E
JUSTICIARYSHIPS

Moves: 1. gue 2. eta 3. grub 4. valve, uva, ba 5. lo 6. lev 7. grubber, bio, re 8. unequivalved, rit 9. rottle 10. rami 11. foraminifer 12. eared 13. do, oh 14. et, te+ 15. ai 16. ledge 17. acknowledge 18. preacknowledge+ 19. ree, er 20. rox 21. ax, ami 22. swam 23. id, de 24. so 25. to, to 26. ary, toy 27. justiciary 28. justiciaryship+ 29. diazohydroxides (1,377), preacknowledged (87), foraminifera (20), tez (22), grubbery (15), unequivalved+ (84), swami (11), justiciaryships (96); adding the 50-point bingo bonus, the total score is 1,762 points. Words with a + are found below the line. The inflected forms preacknowledged, justiciaryships and diazohydroxides are explained in the May Word Ways; foraminifera has an uncapitalized definition.
May 1981

CRABBLE

Scrabble

Word's New

letters. 

en-

for the

variation

Comprehensive


collegiate

New Collec- 

eter (Pocket)

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

Moves: 1. ever 2. advert 3. ant 4. balsa 5. aweary 6. we 7. lac 8. pya 9. triumvir, lip 10. advertise, slip 11. reel 12. oat 13. pesos, so 14. hypo 15. hypochondria 16. at, to 17. om 18. moil 19. lanai 20. nag 21. ad, ad 22. tag 23. tor 24. jerkin 25. on, on 26. in 27. commercializing (1,242), hypochondriac (78), balsam (13), advertiser (14), triumvir (33), adz (23), jerking (57); adding the 50-point bingo bonus, the total score is 1,510 points. Jerking is not listed, but it is regularly formed from the word jerk.