

EVEN MORE ONE-SIDED SCRABBLE

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The February 1982 *Word Ways* presented a SCRABBLE^R Brand Crossword Game (hereafter referred to simply as a Scrabble game) by Prince Joli Kansil in which the winner scored more than 1900 points more than the loser. I was able to add nearly two thousand points to this spread by a slight modification of the setup in "The Highest-Scoring Scrabble Game" in the May 1982 issue:

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

Blank tiles are indicated by letters with asterisks. The turns are:

pudding 70	an 2
emitting, an 74	ma 4
intagli, man 73	ree 3
intaglio 9	re 2
jackpuddinghood 446	ae 2
heaviest 80	we 5
mani, in, ni 18	wa, as 7
adnumber 66	rae 3
sept, wap 14	or 2
telecaster, es, ce 102	el 2
cowberry 88	ti 2
effluvia 92	in, en 4
oxyquinaseptols, la, to, adnumbers 1342	of 1
ox, or 22	ro 2
dehydrofreezing, do, fa, za 1445	

The S remaining in the loser's rack is worth one point, and one

is thus subtracted from his score and added to the winner's producing a final score of 3942 points to 40 points - a difference of 3902 points in the players' scores.

MORE JOY OF LEX

This book is very similar to The Joy of Lex, reviewed in Word Ways in February 1981. Much like Willard Espy, Gyles Brandreth has collected word-related tidbits of information from many books, magazines and friends, including Word Ways author Darryl Francis. It is not surprising to find many Word Ways items in this book; however, specific contributions are not identified by Brandreth although general credit is given in the Acknowledgements. To rectify this situation, I note the Word Ways issues mined by Brandreth.

Z positional word lists (Aug 78, Nov 78), W given name transposals (Feb 75), V words about words (Feb 77), Q famous quotations about words (Nov 79), O linguistic illusions (Feb 72), N Barnhart dictionary neologisms (Nov 81), M state-county name chain (Feb 71) and state-name transpositions (Nov 70), I 'i before e' counterexamples (Feb 74), H multi-hyphenated words (Aug 75, Aug 78), A words in only one dictionary (May 78), A successive curtailments (Feb 78, Feb 77, Aug 78) and letter invariance (May 71), B 4 and 5 identical letters in word (Feb 69 Nov 70) and 3+ consecutive identical letters in word (Aug 81), E quake words (May 79), H tall words (Aug 73) and weighty words (Nov 72), M definitions of 'Christmas' (Dec 73), Q 'q not followed by u' (May 76), W presidential square (May 76)

Though it's hard to criticize an author who has the good taste to include so much Word Ways material in his book, I think it's time to call a halt to books on wordplay that are entirely derivative in nature.

Many of Brandreth's chapters, although amusing, are not really wordplay: famous love letters, last words of famous people, identify the author of a quotation, identify the movie star from his/her real-life name, toasts, famous compliments and insults, last words of dying notables, famous put-downs, etc.

More Joy of Lex was published by William Morrow in 1982, and is available in cloth for \$13.