CARDS, DICE AND HORSES

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"The poetry of earth," one poet assured us, "is never dead"; the poetry of gaming and gambling is not dead, either. Recently, writing about the mindset of gamblers in The Journal of Gambling Behavior, 1 had occasion to look closely at the slang. Here are some of its more "poetic" aspects. How many words and expressions do you know?

1. two or more dice stacked 2. easy victory at the track 3. \$500 4. 2 in craps 5. pair of red aces 6. no tips to croupiers, etc. 7. several lengths ahead in a horse race 8. bet 9. win big 10. nobody wants the dice 11. reject a card and deal another 12. \$10 bill 13. card manipulator 14. cheater at cards 15. high cards but no good hand 16. well-suited for the track 17. horse that runs well on a wet track 18. "take the lead and keep it" 19. 10 20. make a bet or fold 21. one who deals from the bottom of the pack 22. 8s and 10s at dice 23. British bookie 24. program 25.9

Stumped? See Answers and Solutions at the end of this issue.

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