THE "A" GAME

RICHARD LEDERER
San Diego, California

When someone has a good day on the athletic field, we say “She brought her ‘A’ game with her.” Now I invite you to play a different kind of “A” game, one involving charaded homographs and homophones. Each answer consists of words that sound alike, although the words may be spelled differently. The answer will always be in the form of “a + word + word” or “word + a + word”. From each definition you are to identify the words.

For example, from the definition “concerning a boxing match” you would come up with “about a bout”. For another example, from the definition “an obvious father or mother” you would extract “a parent apparent”. For a more difficult example, “offer a low playing card as an example” yields “adduce a deuce”.

I hope you’ve brought your “A” game to this game. All answers repose in Answers and Solutions.

1 attack a ship’s canvas
2 assail a push pin
3 love a portal
4 give notice to a premium
5 praise a contention
6 acquire a Catholic service
7 a cranium in the forefront
8 sailing on a plank
9 agreement by a penny
10 accumulate a ship’s staff

11 gain possession of a chorus
12 a nobleman’s expense statement
13 speak to a skirt
14 a woman in a foreign land
15 a mediocre romance
16 validate a corporation
17 put a stovetop in order
18 a male representative
19 straighten out a row
20 assuage a Hawaiian wreath
21 solitary lent money
22 the attraction of artificial bait
23 a dark bread askew
24 a floating upper room
25 near a part of a boxing match
26 laundry caught in a flood
27 officially name a dot
28 the attraction of a bell ringing
29 shock a gloom
30 make known a twelfth of a pound

31 distribute a parcel of land
32 astonish a corn
33 confer a hospital section
34 expect a heaviness
35 keep away from an emptiness
36 a harmony of musical tones
37 a poem that feels distaste
38 a variety of sunbeams
39 transfer a message
40 farewell to lawn moisture

41 a sound bothers
42 enchant a parcel of land
43 entertain artistic of inspiration
44 help a diseased sac
45 another increase
46 a woman gone astray
47 wear away a length of interwoven hair
48 disconcert a wild party
49 indict a heavy drizzle
50 border on a derriere