THE HIGHEST-SCORING SCRABBLE GAME

KYLE CORBIN
Raleigh, North Carolina

What is the highest possible score achievable in a SCRABBLE® Brand Crossword Game (hereafter referred to simply as a Scrabble game)? This question has intrigued Word Ways readers for ten years. In fact, the rulebooks in current Scrabble games pose this question:

A third way to use Scrabble Brand Crossword Game as a solitaire is to turn the letters right side up and by deliberate selection and the use of the dictionary work out high scores. The highest score attainable remains a mystery.

However, Word Ways has never presented a Scrabble game that attempts to maximize the total score and that follows the current Scrabble rules (outlined in the May 1981 Word Ways). To encourage readers, presented here is the current record-holding Scrabble game of 4001 points. The dictionary of record is Webster's Second.

DEHYDRATE FREEZING
OF RAEMANIA

Jacob puddle
INGHOOD

O R TELE CASTER
OXYQUINASEPTOLS

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

pudding 70 emitting 72 heaviest 80
ma 4 we, wa, as 12 sept, wap 14
intagli, man 73 telecaster, es, ce 102
intaglio 9 el 2
jackpuddlehood 446 in, ti, en 6
adnumber 66 cowberry 88
Comments about a few of these words are in order. DEHYDROFREEZING and TELECASTER are found in the Addenda. Four inflected forms are listed with their roots: EMITTING at 'emit', INTAGLIO at 'intaglio', HEAVIEST at 'heavy' and EFFLUVIA at 'effluvium'. OXYQUINASEPTOLS, whose singular is listed below the line, is recognized on page xciv (part IV, section 25): "If no plural is given, it is formed regularly, by the addition of s." ADNUMBERS, the present third singular of 'adnumber' (also below the line), is recognized on the same page (part IV, sections 24, 29 and 30), where it is stated that principal parts are given only for irregular or irregularly spelled inflections: "The principal parts of verbs are given whenever irregular formations require... (They are) omitted when they are formed regularly..." The rest of the words used in this Scrabble game are either boldface main entries or below the line entries.

Terms are:

oxyquinaseptols, la, rae, or 5
to, adnumbers 1342
ox, or 22
mani, ni, in 18
mania 7
ree 3
ae, re 4

effluvia 92
of 5
eh 5
dehydropfreezing, do, fa, za, ga 1454