No. 0519

NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

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17 Casual dining chain with unlimited breadsticks Take a load off,

20 Shake, as a dog's tail

21 Most-desired group of invitees Home to Zion National Park

23 Capital of Italia Caller of balls and strikes or that's what I think, anyway,"

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Musical genre for D'Angelo and Erykah Badu Some R-rated material Number of

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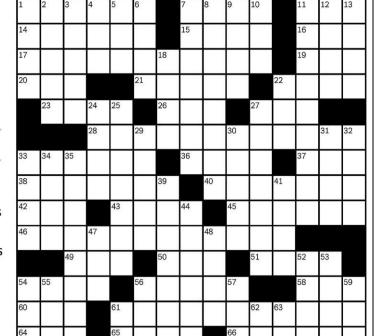
'We hold these to be self-evident" Theater

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'Red" or 'Reputation," for Taylor Swift Starting point for Tropicana or Florida's Natural juice

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CAROLYN HAX Friend cut ties after being called on remark



BY CAROLYN HAX tellme@washpost.com

Dear Carolyn: One of my dearest friends has decided to cut ties. I was venting about work. She said something super mean, and I told her she hurt my feelings.

That was eight months ago. She has not answered texts or calls.

This is a person who officiated my wedding and hosted my baby shower, but also in 30 years has never once apologized for anything. She did this once before and came around after a year of silence.

This time I am super mad and hurt. I do expect to run into her at some point, or for her to pop back up like nothing has happened. I know that it is up to me whether to let her back into my life if she does this.

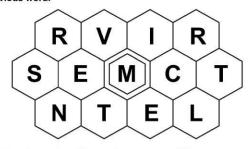
But how do I get over the hurt and decide whether I have had enough? She has a special place in my life, but at this point I am also just hurt.

Ghosted by a Friend

Ghosted by a Friend: You might not know until she does her pop-up thing, and that's OK. See what she says (and doesn't), then see how you feel. Be ready to say: "I'm not sure how I feel about your popping up as if nothing

(EXIGO

Start at the double hexagon. Spell solutions to the clues below by winding your way through the grid. You can backtrack to use letters more than once. Each new word starts with the last letter of the



1. Metric unit of length

2. Awakens

3. Military stint

4. Type of guitar or eel

5. Component of concrete

METER, REVIVES, SERVICE, ELECTRIC, CEMENT

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happened, after months of ignoring me. It's my turn to take some time." If you struggle to say

how hurt and angry you feel and how messed up it is that she does this, then try writing it down. It is her issue entirely.

She is the one with coping mechanisms so dysfunctional, twisted and weak that she has to run away from her own discomfort instead of facing it, like admitting fault. So many kinds of wow. And sad.

I hope, but don't expect, she does reengage with you enough for you to make this point with her.

That's something you can decide now: Her unwillingness to listen or apologize can mean the friendship has run its course. Or you can decide her limits are who she is.

Dear Carolyn: I have the opportunity to go for a promotion at work. It would mean more hours, occasional late nights and more responsibility. I would have, let's say, 15% less freedom than I do now.

In discussing the choice with my husband, he asked whether the salary increase would make up for that loss of freedom. That led to a

discussion in which I discovered we are currently nowhere close to living what I think of as a "nice life" - enough money for necessities plus occasional leisure. We are almost always scratching to pay for this or that unexpected expense, and we don't even have children!

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Now I'm feeling depressed and paralyzed about the decision because it seems to be a choice between freedom and security. A total career overhaul is not an option right now. How do I make this decision?

— A Nice Life

A Nice Life: Maybe I'm being obtuse, but if you're unhappy as is, then why not go for the promotion? See if more money helps. It won't solve the immediate problem of feeling under-leisured, but staying where you are won't solve it, either. So give ambition a try. Chances to step back down are available daily. I realize this demands

time and money, the exact two commodities you feel starved of right now, but a few sessions with a therapist, coach and/or financial planner could be a good investment to help you clarify your goals.

Former Raider Ruggs speaks about fatal Las Vegas DUI crash

22

BY BRYAN HORWATH Las Vegas Review-Journal, The Tribune Content Agency

LAS VEGAS

Close to four years after causing a fiery crash that killed a Las Vegas woman, former Raiders wide receiver Henry Ruggs III said he wishes he had staved home that night.

"I wish that I could turn back the hands of time,' Ruggs said recently while speaking to former prisoners in Las Vegas and virtually to some current prisoners at a handful of Nevada Department of Corrections facilities.

The comments were Ruggs' first known public comments outside court about his role in the November 2021 collision that killed Tina Tintor and her dog.

"I sincerely apologize not only for being a part of that situation, but also for the fact that my face is constantly in the news and in the newspaper, so (the family) has to be constantly reminded of that situation." said Ruggs, 26, who spoke for about an hour at a Hope for Prisoners group gathering in Las Vegas.

The talk was facilitated by Hope for Prisoners founder Jon Ponder.

In the early morning hours of Nov. 2, 2021, Ruggs, a promising young player for the Raiders at the time, was driving his Corvette nearly 160 miles per hour before he crashed into a car driven by Tintor on Rainbow Boulevard near Spring Valley Parkway.

'A PAIN WE FEEL EVERY DAY'

Tintor, 23, and her dog, Max, died in the crash. Ruggs pleaded guilty to a DUI causing death charge

and was sentenced to three to 10 years in prison.

"Every parent's worst nightmare is to create a beautiful child just to have them taken away at the hands of another's negligence," said Tintor's cousin, Daniel Strbac, in a statement prepared by her mother, Mirjana Komazec, at Ruggs' sentencing hearing in August 2023. "There are very few words to explain the feelings of losing a child. It is a pain we feel

every day." In the sentencing hearing, Ruggs apologized to Tintor's family and said "my actions are not a true reflection of me" and that he had "no excuse for the

crash." A message to an attorney who previously worked for the Tintor family was not immediately returned Tuesday. Tintor's uncle, Pedja Komazec, said he didn't know Ruggs would be speaking, and declined

to comment in depth. "I have a lot of things to say, but just to say a couple words is not enough,' Komazec said in a text Tuesday night.

Ruggs was initially booked into High Desert State Prison outside Las Vegas, but was moved to **Stewart Conservation Camp** in northern Nevada one month into his incarceration. In November 2024, the Las Vegas Review-Journal reported that Ruggs had been transferred to the Casa Grande Transitional Housing unit in Las Vegas, where he participates in a work release program. The transitional housing facility is less than a mile from Allegiant Stadium, where the Raiders play their home

Ruggs will be eligible for parole on Aug. 6, 2026.

RAIDERS' FIRST DRAFT PICK WHILE BASED IN LAS VEGAS

A blazing fast receiver out of the University of Alabama, Ruggs was selected with the No. 12 overall pick of the National Football League draft in 2020 by the Raiders. He was the team's first-ever draft pick while located in

Through seven games during the 2021 season, Ruggs had 24 receptions for nearly 500 yards and two touchdowns for the Raiders. He was considered the team's best offensive deep threat and was an important building block for the club's future.

But that all changed that November night in 2021. On Tuesday, Ruggs said he wished he would have simply "stayed home" that night instead of going out drinking.

He spoke of the pressures he felt as a young NFL player with a multimillion-dollar contract in a new city. He said he used drinking as a way to "escape" those pressures.

"I didn't pay attention to the help that I had in front of me because I knew it all," Ruggs said.

Ruggs described his period of incarceration as humbling and said he now meditates and has spent time planning for what his life will be like "outside the walls."

Though he was a football star beloved by hordes of fans, Ruggs said he had to take on an entirely new persona in prison as offender 1273265.

"If they call me 'Henry' or 'Ruggs,' I don't even respond," Ruggs said. "I don't turn or acknowledge them because that's not who I am right now." As to who he is now,

Ruggs said he's still figuring that out, but that he's grown in his faith and he wants to help people when he's released.

FIFA CLUB WORLD **CUP**

Saturday's games

Inter Milan 2, Urawa Red Diamonds 1: Valentin Carboni scored in the second minute of secondhalf stoppage time to complete Inter Milan's rally to a 2-1 victory over Urawa Red Diamonds in Saturday's Group E encounter at the Club World Cup in Seattle. Carboni's strike rescued all three points for Inter (1-0-1, 4 points) 14 minutes after Lautaro Martinez's brilliant, volleyed 78th-minute equalizer from a corner kick. **Borussia Dortmund 4,**

Mamelodi Sundowns 3: Borussia Dortmund held off a late rally by Mamelodi Sundowns in Cincinnati. Dortmund (1-0-1, 4 points) moved to the top of the group F, one point ahead of the Sundowns

(1-1-0, 3 points).Fluminense 4, UIsan **HD 2:** Juan Freytes put Fluminense in front in the 83rd minute and Keno's second-half stoppage time header sealed the victory in an engrossing Group F contest in East Rutherford, N.J. Freytes' winner his first goal for the Brazilian club - came 17 minutes after teammate Nonato leveled during a contest where the lead twice changed hands.

River Plate 0, CF **Monterrey 0:** River Plate moved to a tie atop the Group E standings after playing to a draw against CF Monterrey in Pasadena, Calif. River Plate (1-0-1, 4 points) had multiple shots at taking the lead late in the match, including a corner in the 84th minute, but the Argentinian club could not convert. Things also go heated in extra time, with Monterrey (0-0-2, 2 points) picking up two yellows and River Plate's Kevin Castano picking up his second yellow and being sent off in the 91st

FROM PAGE 1B

SCHOEN

and was named a CFL All-Star in both 2022 and 2023. An injury derailed his junior season in Canada, but he's back and

ready for another big year. "My rookie year was better than I could have ever possibly hoped for," Schoen said. "A couple things broke my way and I was ready for my opportunity. Things fell into place for me and I had a big role in our offense.'

So much so that he remains one of the most dangerous wide receivers in the CFL today.

It's hard for him to explain how he ended up as a star player in Winnipeg. He had no idea where the city was located on a map when the team first contacted his agent. He was shocked to learn he could drive there in 12 hours. It's close enough for his family to make it up for games.

Now, when he goes to CFL events across the region, he feels love from fans just like in his college

days. Big wins don't feel quite as special as when he helped K-State upset No. 5 Oklahoma 48-41 in front of a rowdy home crowd in 2019, but they're

THE WILDCATS HELPED HIM ALONG THE WAY

He still has dreams to play in the NFL. But he also yearns for a Grey Cup, the ultimate crown in the CFL.

As an established CFL player, he makes enough money to train year round without taking on a second job. He likes to spend six months in Overland Park and six months in Winnipeg every year.

Adjusting to a league with extra players, bigger fields and all kinds of pre-snap motion for wide receivers (including sprinting forward before a play begins) wasn't easy. But his game and dependable hands have made him a good match for the CFL.

"Professional football can be a tough journey,

but I think my time at Kansas State probably helped me with that to some degree," Schoen said. "I walked on and had to work my way up. That prepares you for every step in professional football, especially when you're not a highly drafted guy and you're grinding from the bottom."

Schoen is also grateful that he played multiple sports in high school.

He's not sure where he would be today without all those early wake-up calls.

"That was the foundation that I kind of built everything else on,' Schoen said. "Playing three sports is huge for kids. I had friends in high school who just played football and they only got nine games per season. That was it for their high school year. Whereas I'm getting 25 games in basketball and 20 games in baseball on top of football. You're just competing so much more.

"My days were long, but they prepared me for anything.'

Kellis Robinett:

@KellisRobinett