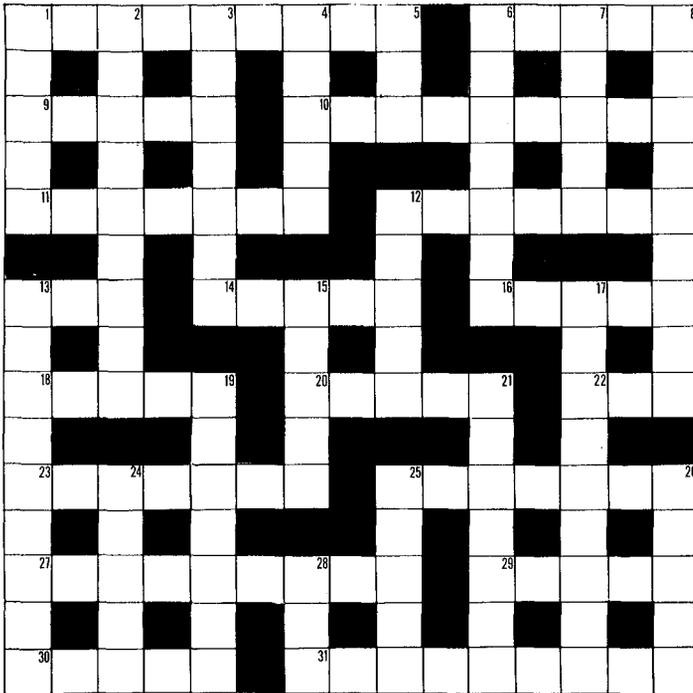


the political puzzle

by John Barclay



- ACROSS**
1. Spoke to both Reds and deads. (9)
 6. With four in, Commander-in-Chief does his duty. (5)
 9. A sip of coffee in Alabama chamber. (5)
 10. If good, a paving stone for descending road. (9)
 11. Aligned with Wheeling. (7)
 12. Pet puss tightens the pressure. (5, 2)
 13. East End of Chicago has passed. (3)
 14. Way to walk on Crete. (5)
 16. Transplant back for one who indulges. (5)
 18. Cleans behind studs. (5)
 20. Sam Snead reaches new heights. (5)
 22. Herring or bait in Washington. (3)
 23. Trust Al Green to blow things up. (7)
 25. Fairness is mere cold water to Nixon? (7)
 27. Guilty of sweet talk with Victor and Theodore. (9)
 29. A little spice in old tales. (5)
 30. Drowning man grips any shoot. (5)
 31. Get singer to deliver opening remarks. (9)
 6. What's in and satisfied. (7)
 7. How gold is found on the vines. (5)
 8. Watergate men and son priced 25 Across low. (9)
 12. Ate too much in my stead. (5)
 13. What spectators cause Enid to do. (9)
 15. In Kiev, adept thieves get away with this. (5)
 17. In Hell, there is nothing intrepid. (9)
 19. Arranging for no grits is easy in D. C. (7)
 21. Pet cuss feels police pressure tighten. (7)
 24. Sophia Loren does this all by herself. (5)
 25. Landis, Byrne, or Medina. (5)
 26. Sees a better way through red tape. (5)
 28. Ticket on gun upside down. (3)
- DOWN**
1. The way we dream of walking in Central Park. (5)
 2. Harsh bosses, doubly so to their secretaries. (9)
 3. Formerly an explosive device, look it over! (7)
 4. Barb found in most in-group jokes. (5)
 5. Little Department on the spot. (3)

The numbers indicate the number of letters and words, e.g., (2, 3) means a two-letter word followed by a three-letter word. Groups of letters, e.g., USA, are treated as one word. Answers to last month's puzzle are on page 10.

Black and White Together Is Still the Point

by Walter Shapiro

For years finding a liberal who opposed school integration was as unlikely as finding an admirer of Golda Meir in the El Fatah. Those were the days when anyone who doubted the rectitude of the cause was dismissed as a "racist" or harangued for giving way to "backlash."

But with the emergence of "busing" as a noun which triggers the same parental fears once reserved for LSD, times have begun to change. Many liberals now doubt whether further school desegregation is worth fighting for. Some of these second thoughts are triggered by political timidity—somewhat understandable when even a poll by the U. S. Civil Rights Commission shows that 70 per cent of those sampled opposed busing and another nine per cent had "no opinion." But the real problem is the growing crisis of the liberal spirit as many question whether busing is defensible as a tactic, whether school

integration is laudable as a goal.

Busing has faded from the headlines in this year of the permanent Watergate Crisis, but by the end of June the Supreme Court is expected to decide two cases which will bring the whole dispute back into the forefront. A Denver case, *Keyes v School District No. 1*, will provide the Court with its first opportunity to decide whether to apply to the North the same standards used in desegregating Southern school systems. In all likelihood, a Richmond case, *Bradley v School Board of the City of Richmond*, will be even more important. Argued in April, it is the first metropolitan cross-district busing case to go before the Supreme Court.

While predicting the behavior of the Court is riskier than reading entrails, the omens seem propitious for the civil rights forces, especially in the Richmond case. Such Supreme Court action would bring anti-busing legislation to the floor of Congress with the speed of a prairie fire. Last fall, Senate liberals choked off a stiff anti-busing

Walter Shapiro is an editor of The Washington Monthly.