

ARTS



Since the 2011 premiere of ‘Game of Thrones,’ the show has become a cultural phenomenon. Now, here’s your guide to the show’s final season. (Warning: spoilers.)

A guide to the main characters of ‘Game of Thrones’

By Nyssa Kruse
nakruse@iu.edu | @NyssaKruse

Jon Snow

For all his life, Jon Snow has believed he is a bastard born of Ned Stark — the beloved lord in the north of Westeros killed in season one — and an unknown woman. Ned raised Jon with his other children until Jon decided to join the protectors of the realm called the Night’s Watch.

He rose through the ranks and later was killed by his own men and then brought back to life. At the start of season eight he is considered King in the North, but he has also pledged fealty to Daenerys Targaryen.

Though he doesn’t know it yet, Jon’s parents were actually Lyanna Stark — Ned’s sister — and Rhaegar Targaryen, making him Daenerys’s nephew and possibly the rightful heir to the Iron Throne because he isn’t actually a bastard. Lyanna and Rhaegar were married during the war, so he would be the legitimate heir of the Iron Throne. This is sticky because he and Daenerys, who believes she is the rightful heir, hooked up at the end of season seven.

Daenerys Targaryen

Cersei Lannister

Daenerys is the daughter of the Mad King Aerys and the last surviving Targaryen — or so she thinks. She brought forth three dragons in season one, the first anyone had seen in more than 100 years, and she’s spent the series using them and her followers to conquer cities in Essos and free slaves. Now she’s set her sights on her ultimate goal: the Iron Throne, though she is helping to defeat the army of the dead first.



Jon Snow and Daenerys Targaryen, two of the main characters on the show.

because her three kids were actually the result of incest with her twin brother Jaime. After her husband and three kids died, Cersei took the Iron Throne for herself.

She claimed to be pregnant at the end of season seven with Jaime’s child, but many viewers are skeptical. She also lied to Jon and Daenerys, telling them she would fight the army of the dead while she actually made plans to secure an army to help her keep the throne in the south.

Jaime Lannister

Jaime Lannister is an infamous knight in the kingdom most known for killing King Aerys, despite being pledged to protect him. It’s significantly more complicated than that, but for the purposes of season eight, it’s most important to know that he was devoted to his sister/lover Cersei until the end of season seven.

She refuses to help fight the White Walkers coming to ransack the realm and has instead holed up in her castle. This caused Jaime to finally abandon her — the other evil stuff somehow wasn’t enough — so for season eight, he is riding north,

where he intends to join the fight against the army of the dead.

Tyion Lannister

The younger brother of Cersei and Jaime Lannister, Tyion is a dwarf with a prowess for politics. He is estranged from Cersei and, to an extent, Jaime after Tyion killed their father in season four and fled to Essos. He teamed up with Daenerys overseas and became her adviser.

Bran Stark

The last surviving son of Ned Stark, Bran has magical powers that allow him to enter the minds and bodies of animals and see backward and forward in time. He has become a magical being called the Three-Eyed Raven and essentially shed his humanity and identity by season seven.

Arya Stark

The youngest daughter of Ned Stark, Arya started the series as a tomboy eager to keep up with her older brothers. Now, she’s a trained assassin who can wear other people’s faces to disguise herself.

What’s going on in Westeros?

By Nyssa Kruse
nakruse@iu.edu | @NyssaKruse

When season eight kicks off, there will be two main plots: in the north, where most characters have converged to try to defeat the White Walkers and the army of the dead, and in the south, where current queen Cersei Lannister is trying to keep a grip on the throne. Here is the briefest possible explanation of the important families, places and things in the series to this point.

Westeros

Westeros is the Europe-like continent most of “Game of Thrones” happens on. It contains the Seven Kingdoms, which are actually nine separate dominions ruled by whoever sits on the Iron Throne.

Robert’s Rebellion

Robert’s Rebellion occurred about 15 years prior to the events of season one of the show. At the time, the realm rebelled against the Targaryen King Aerys because he was burning people alive and because his son and heir, Rhaegar, allegedly kidnapped and raped Lyanna Stark, the sister of the late beloved lord in the North Ned Stark.

In actuality, Rhaegar and Lyanna ran away together and got married, but no one knew that. So Robert Baratheon, Lyanna’s betrothed, killed Rhaegar during the rebellion and took the throne for himself. Lyanna died at the end of the war giving birth to Jon Snow.

Targaryen

The Targaryens are an ancient family of dragon lords originally from the other main continent in the world of “Game of Thrones” — Essos — who conquered the Seven Kingdoms a few hundred years before the events of the show. They ruled Westeros until the Mad King Aerys was killed by his own guard, Jaime Lannister, during Robert’s Rebellion. Their dragons had been extinct for more than 100 years until season one of the show, when Daenerys Targaryen brings them back.

fore the events of the show. They ruled Westeros until the Mad King Aerys was killed by his own guard, Jaime Lannister, during Robert’s Rebellion. Their dragons had been extinct for more than 100 years until season one of the show, when Daenerys Targaryen brings them back.

Stark

The Starks are the longtime rulers of the northernmost dominion in Westeros. Once they were kings of the North until the continent was conquered by the Targaryens. They then became lords subservient to the Iron Throne. Now, the North has rebelled and declared itself independent once more, naming Jon Snow its king.

Lannister

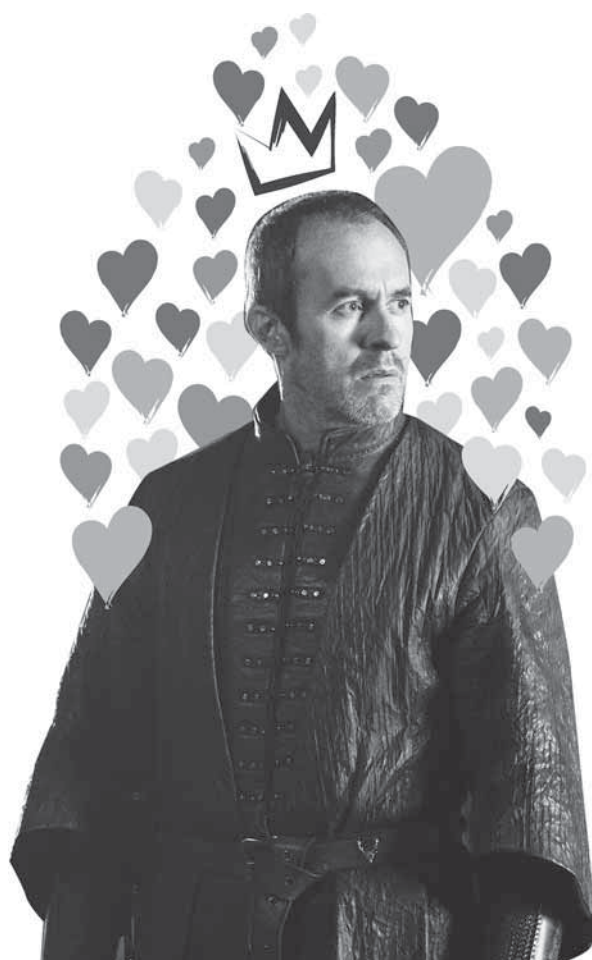
The Lannisters are a powerful family in Westeros who have controlled the Iron Throne for at least three or so decades, though no Lannister actually sat on the throne until season six — kinda.

But for the purposes of season eight, it’s important to know that Cersei Lannister is the first Lannister in name to sit on the throne. At this point, the Lannisters are enemies with just about every other family on the show.

White Walkers

Heading into season eight, much of the show’s attention has shifted to the fight against the White Walkers and their army of the dead.

The White Walkers are magical beings who can raise the dead into zombie-like creatures called wights. The White Walkers, led by the Night King, are coming for Westeros this season, so most characters have banded together to try to defeat this threat to all of humanity.



A late love letter to a lost king

By Kathryn de la Rosa
krdelaro@iu.edu | @kdlrose

I knew I was done with “Game of Thrones” after the penultimate episode of season five, when Stannis Baratheon burned his daughter Shireen alive in a battlefield sacrifice to the Lord of Light.

I loved him. I tagged him on my high school Tumblr as #kingofmyheart. I relate to his middle child syndrome. I think he’s a DILE.

I respect his actor Stephen Dillane, a stage veteran who managed to squeeze some gravitas out of dialogue that sounds like it was written as an afterthought.

I skimmed the books for chapters that are narrated by Davos Seaworth, his faithful Lord Hand who adored him more than even I could.

By season five, Stannis was an artifact of the narrative heights “Game of Thrones” reached in its early days.

Under all the sex and dragons, it was an intense political drama.

The War of the Five Kings modeled the dos and don’ts of governance like a Shakespearean history or presidential biopic.

Stannis was my king because he had the legitimacy and credentials to lead.

He was a true king for winter, whose bluntness and austerity would crush political machinations of the King’s Landing of season one. He was the king who cared enough to actually go to the Wall.

I get emotional imagining teenage Stannis besieged at Storm’s End during Robert’s Rebellion, starving alongside his men and raising Renly in war-

time.

That Stannis commits his two worst atrocities against his brother and daughter makes him a tragic hero as well as an archetypal king.

His death was deserved, absolutely. But his arc needed more care, as much as the story of anyone who mistakenly creates his own tragedy. Stannis was a tragic hero of classical proportions, whose downfall was as human and self-wrought as that of Oedipus.

It’s not that Stannis would never kill Shireen, but the lead-up to her death was too shallow to do the Dragonstone Baratheons any justice.

Dillane — who went down in British theater history as a fully-nude Hamlet in the 1990s — would have had a much better time on the show given material by writers who recognized the richness of Stannis’ plot.

Instead, they made him a weird zealot whose whole personality is correcting people’s grammar.

Morally bankrupt as Westeros is, Stannis emerged as a dark horse for his purported principles.

He was driven by duty and misguided by Melisandre. The horrifying, masculine Reddit cult of “Stannis the Mannis” is nearly matched by a faction of female fanfic writers who romanticize him into a Byronic hero.

But the sloppiness of Shireen’s death shows “Game of Thrones” only selectively cares about its characters’ interior lives.

That disinterest in moral crisis guaranteed my disinterest in the future of this show.

ILLUSTRATION BY ANNIE AGUIAR

‘Game of Thrones’ became an entertainment juggernaut. But why?

By Ellen Hine
emhine@iu.edu | @ellenhine

“Game of Thrones” has dominated popular culture since its release eight years ago, introducing viewers to a heart-pounding, hair-raising world of mythical beasts and political machinations.

It won 47 Emmy Awards so far and has been nominated 128 times. It averaged 30.6 million viewers per episode in its seventh season, up from 2.5 million in season one, according to Variety.

“Game of Thrones” had the vision and the budget to bring dragons and White Walkers to life. But for all the show’s flashier fantasy elements, it remains rooted in strong emotional storytelling. Viewers became devoted to their favorite characters’ journeys and personal growth.

In the original “A Song of Ice and Fire” series and other supplemental books, George R.R. Martin wrote a sprawling history going back thousands of years for a fictional universe and created a tumultuous web of royal houses and personal relationships. History is an important part of “Game of Thrones.” The past affects the future and influences how characters think and interact.

Learning history takes time. The format of a television show lets “Game of Thrones” deliver important information at the show’s own pace, dropping shocking details such as Jon Snow’s parentage at the exact right moment.

That careful plotting is important to “Game of Thrones.” The show contains some of



MOVIE STILL DATABASE

Actress Emilia Clarke plays Daenerys Targaryen, the daughter of the slain Mad King Aerys, in the series.

the most impressive action scenes ever made, but it really thrives when it spends its time chronicling the characters’ political schemes and changing dynamics. The show developed a reputation early on in its run for not being afraid to pull the rug out from under its characters. For viewers who had never read the book, Ned Stark seemed like the obvious protagonist of the series.

His beheading in the penultimate episode of season one was shocking and raised the stakes of the show to a new level. In “Game of Thrones,” no one is safe. For all of the fantasy elements of “Game of Thrones,” the actual story was always rooted in real emo-

tion and believable character growth. Never knowing if their favorite character was going to survive the next episode excited viewers in a way few shows ever did. Dragons and gigantic battles will always draw people in, but the characters and the storytelling are what caused people to stay and become more invested.

The precarious nature of the show also made fans bond together. “Game of Thrones” fan podcasts and YouTube channels poured over Martin’s books to find clues about Jon’s parents or the Night King’s origins. Each episode became a subject of intense online discussion, causing Twitter to compile data on us-

IDSNEWS.COM

WEB SPECIAL | Listen to our predictions for season eight in a special one-off podcast

ers’ reactions to each episode including most mentioned characters and plot lines as well as most used emoji.

“Game of Thrones” is a titan of pop culture. It elevated the television medium and fantasy genre to new heights. And while fans will be sad to see it go, they’ll still have the incredible community the show fostered. The watch of “Game of Thrones” has ended, but its impressive legacy is just getting started.

Prophecies upon prophecies: fan theories heading into season eight

By Nyssa Kruse
nakruse@iu.edu | @NyssaKruse

Google “Game of Thrones” fan theories, and there will be millions of hits. From the depths of Reddit to podcasts like The Ringer’s “Binge Mode,” fans of the series have come up with a lot of theories over the years of how it will all end. Theories are often based on evidence from the books or the series. Here are just a few of the most prominent ones out there right now.

Valonqar

A longtime fan theory revolves around a prophecy Cersei received as a girl. In the books, Maggy the Frog, a fortune teller, told Cersei she would marry a king and have three children who would die. Then she would be cast down by a younger, more beautiful queen and killed by the “valonqar,” the high Valyrian word for little brother, wrapping his hands around her throat. The show featured the same prophecy but omitted the valonqar part.

So far the prophecy has proved accurate about her marriage, kids and seemingly a younger queen, and although the show left off the end of the prophecy, fans



MOVIE STILL DATABASE

Bran Stark, the last surviving son of Ned Stark, has magical powers.

have theorized it will still come true. In the books, Cersei thinks Tyrion is the valonqar, but many believe Jaime is the little brother that will ultimately kill Cersei. Jaime came out after Cersei during their birth, making him technically her younger brother, and his killing her seems to many a poetic end to their arc.

Azor Ahai/The Prince Who Was Promised

The prophecy of The Prince Who Was Promised is pretty lengthy, but it mainly stems from the legend of Azor Ahai. Azor Ahai is a fabled hero in the continent of Essos — though the North-

erners in Westeros have a similar legend — who saved the world from the Long Night with a hero’s sword forged by sacrificing his wife. It’s prophesied he will be born again as the Prince Who Was Promised to bring the dawn once more.

Some characters provided additional clues as to the identity of the Prince Who Was Promised. Many have said he will be reborn under a bloody star amid salt and smoke. Some believe he will be associated with dragons or even specifically born of Aerys and Rhaella Targaryen’s family line.

Fans have argued over

who is Azor Ahai reborn or whether there will even be a Prince Who Was Promised. We’ve even been told the prince could also be a princess — translation issues from High Valyrian — so the case could be made for a slew of characters, though probably most strongly for Daenerys or Jon.

Bran is the Night King

This theory is very convoluted and complicated, as any theories involving time travel are. Essentially, some fans believe that in the process of trying to stop the White Walkers through time travel, Bran accidentally becomes the Night King, the leader of the zombie-like creatures who can raise the dead.

There are slight variations on this theory, but a popular one posits that Bran goes further and further back in time to try to find moments to stop the White Walkers, and eventually ends up back at the moment the Night King was created. Bran wargs into the man set to become the Night King in hopes of preventing him from being transformed. It doesn’t work, he becomes trapped and then must live on as the Night King.

The key to student housing in Bloomington.

Browse housing options located on campus and off with LiveInBtown.com. Organize your results based on location, price, size, amenities and more!



LiveInBtown.com

Remembering seven seasons of heartbreaking character deaths, shocking reveals and more in ‘Game of Thrones’

By Nyssa Kruse and Laurel Demkovich
arts@idsnews.com

Trying to narrow down nearly a decade of TV greatness into 10 moments is incredibly difficult. There are probably hundreds of moments that could have been put on this list and definitely a handful that were agonizingly left out, but here is our ranking of the top 10 moments in Game of Thrones so far.

10. Cersei blowing up the Sept — season six, episode ten

We all knew Cersei Lannister was evil, but blowing up innocent people, including her daughter-in-law, took her evil to a new level. It was also a pivotal moment for her as her actions drove her last child to death — bringing a prophecy Cersei was told as a child closer to fruition — and for the realm as she took the throne for herself and became the first queen of Westeros.

9. Hardhome — season five, episode eight

Though there are numerous epic battles in "Game of Thrones" history, Hardhome makes the list of top moments because it showed viewers the power of the White Walkers as the Night King raised the dead in front of Jon Snow's eyes.

This moment also showed who Jon was at his core as he prioritized saving Wildlings back to Castle Black over the safety of himself and his men.

8. Tyrion's speech at his trial for Joffrey's murder — season four, episode six

Tyrion Lannister is known

for being clever with words, but his speech where he “confesses” his guilt comes out on top. The powerful dialog speaks for itself: “I am guilty of being a dwarf.”

Tywin Lannister: “You are not on trial for being a dwarf.”

Tyrion: “Oh, yes I am. I’ve been on trial for that my entire life.”

7. Jon's resurrection — season six, episode two

Season six marked the series’ first full season with no basis in the books.

One of the key questions still unanswered by George R.R. Martin’s published writings was whether Jon would be resurrected — he remains dead in the books as of now.

His gasp of air on the table at Castle Black was one of the most highly anticipated moments of the show.

6. Daenerys emerging with her baby dragons — season one, episode 10

Daenerys Targaryen literally walked into a burning pyre and came out unscathed with three baby dragons, creatures unseen for more than 100 years. Enough said.

5. Ned's beheading — season one, episode nine

Ned Stark's beheading at the end of season 1 was the first time fans — and many cast members — realized that not even main characters were safe from death.

His beheading also started many of the characters’ arcs for the next few seasons as well as solidified the deep hatred



Hodor holds the door in season six, episode five. The moment was a time-warping example of the extent of Bran Stark's powers. MOVIE STILL'S DATABASE

between the Lannisters and the Starks, carrying throughout the series.

4. Jaime's hot tub confession — season three, episode five

Jaime Lannister has proved probably one of series’ most complex and transformed characters, and his confession to Brienne of what really happened when he killed the Mad King greatly added to his depth.

He didn't kill the king because he was evil or power hungry but rather to save his family and the city — but no one ever knew.

3. Hold the door — season six, episode five

The sequence revealing how Hodor became unable to speak more than his name was gut-wrenching, killing one of the series most lovable characters.

It also showed viewers the extent of Bran Stark's powers. He can not only see backward and forward in time, but he can also affect the past when he travels there.

It is worth noting Bran didn't seem to change the past, though, because what happened to Hodor had already happened.

He more or less completed

history.

2. Jon Snow's parentage reveal — season seven, episode seven

The season six reveal that Jon was the son of Lyanna Stark and Rhaegar Targaryen was the affirmation of about two decades of fan theorizing, but it left a lot of questions still to be answered. How will Jon find out? Will anyone believe it? Does this make Jon the heir to the Iron Throne? Does it even matter at this point?

1. The Red Wedding — season three, episode nine

When the song "The

Rains of Castamere" began playing after Lord Walder Frey's daughter and Edmure Tully's wedding ceremony, viewers knew something bad was going to happen.

Just as Catelyn Stark, Lady of Winterfell, realizes she's been betrayed by Frey's men, so do we, and before it's too late, we see all of King in the North Robb Stark's men massacred.

No one really expected three major characters — Robb, Catelyn and Talisa Stark, pregnant with Robb's child — to die. Certainly no one expected them all to die at once.

Horoscope

To get the advantage, check the day's rating:
10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21-April 19) — Today is a 6 — Plan carefully before launching into a domestic project. Take advantage of a golden opportunity for a long-desired change. Do the research before investing time or money.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — Today is an 8 — Connect with a clever crew over a brilliant idea. Take their comments into consideration. Discuss plans and preparations. Discover an unexpected solution to a breakdown.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) — Today is a 7 — An error, misunderstanding or repair could get expensive. Extra income could become available due to an insider advantage or windfall. Balance numbers. Invest in success.

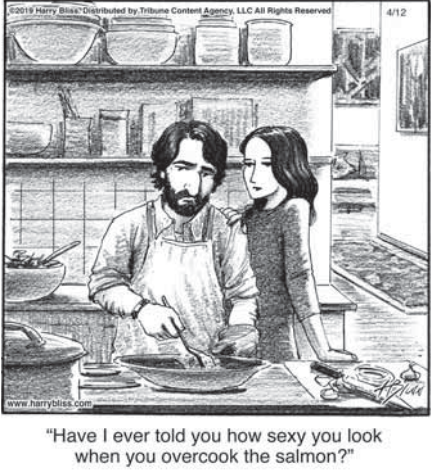
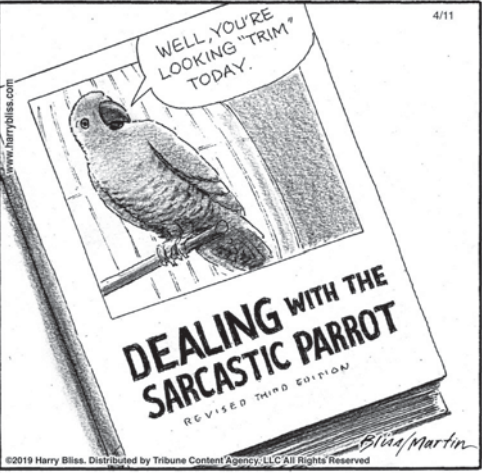
Cancer (June 21-July 22) — Today is an 8 — A disappointment could thwart a personal project. Miscommunication or mistakes cause delays. Don't discuss unfinished plans. Rearrange what you've got. Consider another view.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is a 6 — Slow down and contemplate. Avoid crowds and expensive scenarios. Peace and quiet satisfies your spirit. Get introspective as you clean house. Consider past, present and future.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today is a 7 — Huddle with your team to resolve a challenge. Share the load for greater ease. Hold off on big changes, and wait for better conditions.

BLISS

HARRY BLISS



Publish your comic on this page.

The IDS is accepting applications for student comic strips for the **summer & fall 2019 semesters.**

Email five samples and a brief description of your idea to adviser@indiana.edu by May 1. Submissions will be reviewed and selections will be made by the editor-in-chief.

su do ku

Difficulty Rating:

			3	7	5	2		
			9					6
5		2	8					
	8					9		2
		1				7		
4		7					8	
					8	3		9
8					2			
		4	5	3	1			

How to play: Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 grid contains the digits 1 through 9, without repeating a number in any one row, column or 3x3 grid.

Answer to previous puzzle

8	9	6	7	2	4	1	3	5
5	7	1	6	9	3	8	4	2
3	2	4	5	1	8	9	7	6
6	3	7	4	5	9	2	1	8
9	1	2	3	8	6	4	5	7
4	5	8	2	7	1	3	6	9
1	4	5	9	6	2	7	8	3
2	6	3	8	4	7	5	9	1
7	8	9	1	3	5	6	2	4

© Puzzles by Pappocom

Crossword

L.A. Times Daily Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10		11	12	13
14							15					16		
17							18					19		
							20				21			
							22							
23	24	25					26				27			
28							29	30			31	32		
33							34							
35							36				37		38	39
							40	41						
							42				43			
							44							
45	46	47					48							
49							50				51			
52							53	54			55	56		
57							58				59		60	61
62							63				64			
65							66				67			
68							69				70			

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 Sizzling Tex-Mex meat
- 7 Polling results: Abbr.
- 11 Adams of “Vice”
- 14 Boy whose wings melted in the sun
- 15 Four-star review
- 16 Forest female
- 17 Gently used
- 18 Salinger title teen
- 19 “Let’s get out of here!”
- 20 Drawer in the court
- 23 Isn’t feeling 100%
- 26 Grafton’s “___ for Alibi”
- 27 Ship stabilizer
- 28 “You overreact when you’re hungry” candy bar
- 33 Brand of suit Bania gave Jerry in a memorable “Seinfeld” episode
- 34 Lamb’s alias
- 35 Indiana state flowers
- 37 Cast a spell on
- 42 Banking biggie
- 44 Acrobatic dive
- 45 It may contain curls and crunches
- 49 Nice dad?

- 50 MADD ad, e.g.
- 51 Holly genus
- 52 Clinic technician
- 57 Singer DiFranco
- 58 Opera set in Egypt
- 59 Ex-Met pitcher known as “Dr. K”
- 63 ___ profit
- 64 Pitch indicator
- 65 One way to travel
- 66 Carpentry tool
- 67 ___ loser
- 68 Kids’ card game ... and a directive pertaining to the four longest puzzle answers

DOWN

- 1 Shark tip-off
- 2 Bandage brand
- 3 Boxer’s target
- 4 Biometric identification technique
- 5 Narwhal feature
- 6 Queens tennis stadium
- 7 Sharply defined
- 8 Transaction without financing
- 9 “South Park” rating
- 10 Magic 8 Ball, some hope
- 11 Brody of “The Pianist”

- 12 Revealed the function of, with “over”
- 13 Streisand title role
- 21 La Brea ___ Pits
- 22 Ref’s ruling
- 23 Quickly, quickly
- 24 Memo lead-in
- 25 Wheels for a celeb
- 29 New York cager
- 30 Farm follower?
- 31 Jargon
- 32 Former Portuguese colony in China
- 36 More senseless
- 38 Had a great first date
- 39 Deep blue dye
- 40 Aloha State bird
- 41 “Jurassic World” predator, for short
- 43 “The coast is clear”
- 45 Withdrew gradually
- 46 Kayak alternative
- 47 Actor Stephen who is a UNICEF Ireland Ambassador
- 48 Traitor
- 49 Course before contingencies
- 53 Anatomical pouches
- 54 Storage cylinder
- 55 Excited
- 56 Words said with a finger wag
- 60 “___ know you?”
- 61 Canon SLR
- 62 Unspecified degree

Look for the crossword daily in the comics section of the Indiana Daily Student. Find the solution for the daily crossword here.

Answer to previous puzzle

A	P	A	R	T	I	G	O	R	P	A	L	E
L	O	N	E	R	N	A	N	A	E	N	O	S
B	I	G	P	I	C	T	U	R	E	Y	A	L
A	S	L	B	O	O	Z	Y	I	O	C		
N	O	E	L	T	W	E	E	T	S	T	O	R
S	N	E	A	D	O	P	E	N	U	P		
C	A	T	C	H	O	N				D	D	S
C	H	E	S	A	P	E	A	K	E	B	A	Y
S	O	U								R	A	T
U	N	L	E	S	S					O	A	S
M	E	A	L	T	I	C	K	E	T			
H	A	Y								L	O	R
I	H	O	P							R	E	A
A	M	O	S							H	A	L
N	O	P	E							O	R	A

BREWSTER ROCKIT: SPACE GUY!

