Puzzled Pint

August 2019

The Great Gonzo

The Great Gonzo was supposed to jump his motorcycle over the guest star, but we haven't found him yet. So instead, Gonzo's going to play a game of chicken... with a flock of chickens! Will they win, or will he take them all out in one fowl swoop? If so, they'll need weeks to re-coop-erate. Waka-waka! But if Gonzo prevails over the poultry, he will truly be the _____ of the _____!

The way this game of chicken works is that both sides come at each other head on. If one side "gives," then it will donate a letter to the other word, both of them making new words. If neither side "gives," then both words crash together and jumble up, and one letter will pop out of the wreckage, leaving a new word behind. You have to figure out which outcome happens each time. The middle clue is either a two-word clue for the "crash" word, or two one-word clues for each new "give" word. Keep track of the letter that either moves across or pops out and read them, in order, for the answer.

Oysters make them PEARLS *give* PEARS   CLOGS   L   COGS Toothed machine wheels
Fruit jams

Plumbing problem LEAK *crash*   BLANKET   E   BENT Crooked
Bed Covering

Sweat and tears ingredient _ _ _ _   _____   _ _ _ _ Contest of speed
Blood red

Preliminary version _ _ _ _ _ _   _____   _ _ _ _ Autos
Boat deck

It's in the center of your face _ _ _ _   _____   _ _ _ _ Earth's biggest satellite
Seasonal rain

Ended an at-bat (with "out") _ _ _ _ _ _   _____   _ _ _ Buzzing insect
Puzzled Pint

Like fruit that is ready to eat _ _ _ _   _____   _ _ _ _ Engrave on metal
Religious nonbeliever

Fresh from the shower _ _ _ _ _   _____   _ _ _ _ Flying mammals
Mob hits

Freezing _ _ _ _   _____   _ _ _ _ One and the other
Ancient ruin

Prohibit _ _ _   _____   _ _ _ _ _ _ Banana lover
Treasury Bills