

3. Some Assembly, Greek-Wired

by Ucaoimhu

(Solve only after ~~solving~~ starting Puzzles 1 and 2.)

Welcome to the twin cities! At this convention, these are:

Minneapolis, whose name combines Dakota *mni* (water) with Greek πόλις (city). Correspondingly, each unshaded row or column in the city grid to the right will contain two answers, whose clues are joined together in one unbroken “stream” (any tags for either answer follow this stream). Shaded squares reflect a river not far away, the *Mnisota* (for which this state is named). In each stream, where the lengths of the answers are (in order) *m* and *n*, cross out the first clue’s last *m* letters and the last clue’s first *n* letters; in stream order, the letters *after* the crossed-out sections will say what the river reflects (as the Dakota word *sóta* might suggest), and the letters *before* them will give a Greek-derived term saying how to learn more about this subject.

Saint Paul, named for a figure who wrote many assembly-related (ἐκκλησιαστικός) letters. Correspondingly, the answers to the Saint Paul clues (which are in alphabetical order by answer) will go into the grid like the pieces in a “Some Assembly Required” puzzle: Each will follow an orthogonally connected path (with no two unconnected squares touching even diagonally), no two paths will ever overlap, and collectively the paths will fill the entire grid (both shaded and unshaded squares). Each letter A–Y will appear in one shaded square; if that square is the *m*th from the start and *n*th from the end of the path including it, note the the *m*th letter from the start and *n*th from the end of its corresponding clue. In A–Y order, the *m*th letters will say

1		2		3		4		5		6
7										
8										
9										
10										
11										

what item to note for all three puzzles in this set (call these three items Z1, Z2, and Z3) and the *n*th letters will form a cryptic clue (with enumeration) for a “key word.” Then:

- Encode Z3 in a cipher where the key word becomes Z1.
- For each letter in Z2, in order, follow the path including a shaded square with that letter and note (in order) what little numbers you find in its squares’ northwest corners.
- Use the complete overall list of numbers from **β** as indexes into **α** to extract a term (neither Dakota nor Greek) for some activities that might be popular in twin cities.

MINNEAPOLIS ACROSS STREAMS

- Philosopher Baruch zips an O-shaped “suit” that’s worn by Reba, Matthew, Mark, etc. for rave
- VIP is hugged by *Cook Off*’s head writer, Frank (*hyph.*)
- Trades around one hundred items bearing a picture for one thousand bagels and brand-name toaster waffles
- Snakes in old city-state no longer on the map spun an Ucaoimhu-protecting garment that’s most green (*abbr.*)
- Transform pre-OE word before *citato* in a sources list and Gallic *mètre* into that ancestral word
- “Old men who are parental time races,” Short writes

MINNEAPOLIS DOWN STREAMS

- Lead-in to *Ballet For New Wave Fans* superimposes panda upon partly pirouetting pro with good snack food
- Author Banks, actress Peeples, and I mount rolling devices inside of yucca flowers
- Bird’s bizarre tan Rolo candy is repeatedly unwrapped by editors Flanders and Ludd
- Air in restaurateur’s worthless termite-expelling gizmo
- Devices that louden measures of current musicmaker playing medieval songs Meg & Lena arranged
- Prongs Bond’s employing ultimately unpun seventy-foot works of art, upsetting heartless dictator’s followers

SAINT PAUL CLUES

- A month with strange prophet in Jeroboam’s kingdom (4)
- Kid’s torn “U” tag he’d attached to last of liquor (8)
- Enters nose of giant alien thing that’s slothlike (4 2)
- Never wears forms of footwear (5)
- Line up chic blossom (5, *var.*)
- Two ends of Missouri lake Kansas thoroughly uses (5)
- To men freaking out an artist who painted water lilies (5)
- Limb-limbed *Frozen* character Zola fan shows you (4)
- Put on the page before “rather less shirty gym class” (7)
- Joe’s carpet viper’d vexed Pisan, Dominican, et al. (6 10)
- Walled off near tin fragments in space at, say, UCSB (11)
- Space ensigns’ vessels maneuver within orbiting docks, including two of Earth’s (3 4)
- Damp snow (gevalt!) covering Greg’s outerwear (5)
- Waugh’s items that turn navy twice . . . er, in spas (8)
- A spelling used after “X-Ray” in the backs of comics and fronts of softcovers pervades ELO’s *Xanadu* (4)
- Colors shell of swift egg one upends (5)
- Toros*’ mates from Valencia emptied most of cask (5)
- In white and red, Hathaway is not so ruddy (6)
- Movie role Anthony Quinn played in *Quartz Orb* also (5)