



We had three obvious theme entries in SCRAMBLING, MANTOMANDEFENSE, and LINEOFSCRIMMAGE. These should have been pretty easy to pick out because the clues for all of these specifically mentioned football plays. That was also your clue that BLUESMUSIC was not a theme answer despite being symmetrical with one.

Clue for 28-A: Scheme where each X matches up with one O in playbook diagrams. Drawing lines between all the Xs and Os would put them in MANTOMANDEFENSE.

Clue for 46-A: Neutral boundary often intersected by match-up lines in playbook diagrams. The fact that the phrase "playbook diagrams" was used in both clues should have been another good clue for you. Now that you've started to draw your own playbook diagram, you should've realized, that yes, indeed, the LINEOFSCRIMMAGE was intersected several times. Six, to be exact, and hey, the title is Pick Six.

Step 3: Clue for 17-A: Action that's often unwritten but implied as a last resort in playbook diagrams. So, in this clue I'm telling you that your last resort is SCRAMBLING, or, well, UNSCRAMBLING in this case.

UNSCRAMBLING the 6 letters that are intersected in LINEOFSCRIMMAGE gives you **EAGLES**, a professional football team, and the answer to the meta.