

Before you even started the grid, you should've noticed something odd about this puzzle: the meta prompt had a bunch of odd capitalized letters. If you extracted those letters in order, you could've made out the postal abbreviations for six states: AR - OH - NE - AZ - RI - SC. Since the prompt asked for a state capital, one logical next step would've been to look up the capitals to those states. Then, you could've found 6 clues that described each of the resultant state capitals. Taking the first letters of the grid entries from those clues spelled out **PIERRE**, the contest answer and the state capital of South Dakota.

1	P	2	B	3	S		4	N	5	A	6	L	7	A		8	I	9	P	10	A	11	D
12	E	A	T				13	B	I	O	S					14	N	I	L	E			
15	B	R	O				16	C	R	A	W					17	D	E	L	I			
18	B	L	U	19	E	S	Y			20	E	L	I	T	E	S							
22	L	E	T	I	N			23	E	L	E	G	A	N	T								
24	E	Y	E	S				25	S	A	L	V	E										
			26	R	E	27	S	T	R	A	I	N	T	28									
				29	N	O	E	L	S			30	O	W	E	S	31		32				
33	M	A	S	34	H	U	P	S				36	G	U	E	S	T						
37	U	N	C	O	R	K						38	L	O	S	E	T	O					
39	S	N	O	W				40	I	41	R	O	N			42	D	E	N				
43	T	I	R	E				44	D	O	L	E				45	L	E	E				
46	S	E	E	R				47	S	C	A	R				48	E	M	S				

**PIERRE (South Dakota)**

the Answer to this New metaPuzzle offering is a State Capital

State	Capital	Suitable clue	Grid word		
AR	Arkansas	Little Rock	Bit of gravel	PEBBLE	P
OH	Ohio	Columbus	Word found on many October calenders	INDIGENOUS	I
NE	Nebraska	Lincoln	President whose nickname appears in crosswords way more often than his actual name	EISENHOWER	E
AZ	Arizona	Phoenix	Mythical bird	ROC	R
RI	Rhode Island	Providence	Frugality	RESTRAINT	R
SC	South Carolina	Columbia	Outerwear manufacturer	EMS	E