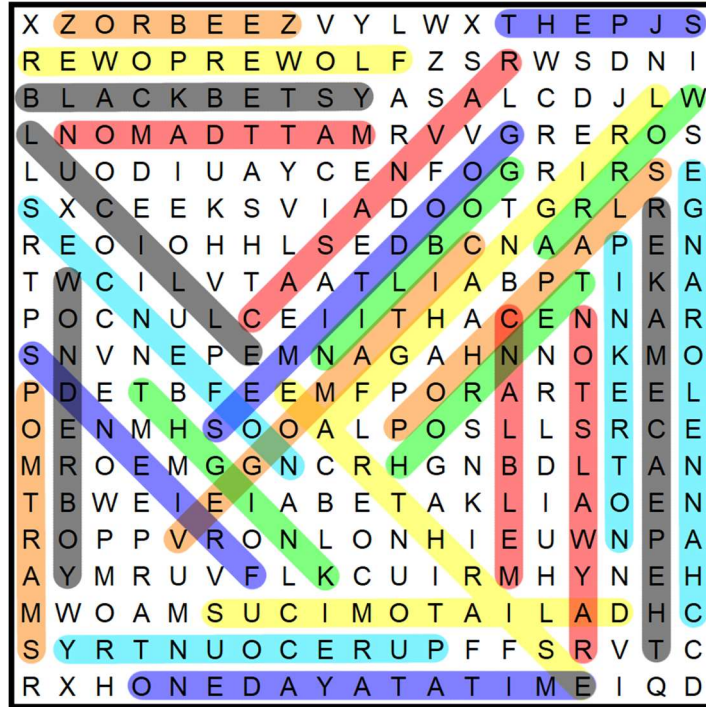


**No Man's Land**

Scott Handelman

Answer: **MONTREAL CANADIENS**

In the wordsearch are seven related sets of four terms, one per JLA hero in the flavortext.



Find the men associated with the things from each set and take their indicated letters.

The Flash (taken photographs)	Steve McCurry	Bernie Boston	Philippe Halsman	William Anders
Superman (superintendents on TV shows)	Thurgood Stubbs	Nathan Bookman	Dwayne Schneider	Mr. Treeger
Martian Manhunter ("Martians" in entertainment)	Marvin the Martian	Mark Watney	Martin O'Hara	Alex Kamal
Batman (baseball bats named by users)	Negan Smith	Shoeless Joe Jackson	Roy Hobbs	Owen Knopfler
Hawkman (sold by on TV)	Anthony Sullivan	Billy Mays	Ron Popeil	Vince Offer
Green Lantern ("Green" aliases)	Bertilak de Hautdesert	Britt Reid	Norman Osborn	Oliver Queen
Aquaman ("watery" musicians)	Rivers Cuomo	Garth Brooks	Frank Ocean	George Strait

The message "USE WONDER WOMAN ON TINIER SQUARE appears, and there are exactly 121 letters in the wordsearch not currently part of a word. Take these and form a new 11-by-11 wordsearch grid, and look for the nine things invented and discovered by women.

polonium	MARIE CURIE
pulsars	JOCELYN BELL BURNELL
francium	MARGUERITE PEREY
Kevlar	STEPHANIE KWOLEK
FLOW-MATIC	GRACE HOPPER
dark matter	VERA RUBIN
double helix	ROSALIND FRANKLIN
Inner core	INGE LEHMANN
Cepheids	HENRIETTA SWAN LEAVITT



Taking the indicated letters from their names spells out the answer, **MONTREAL CANADIENS**.

### Author's Notes

**Scott:** When you write a Batman hunt for 18 months, stupid stuff goes through your head. One day I thought "Hmm, wonder how many people have named their bats. There's Negan's Lucille on The Walking Dead...and Wonderboy from The Natural, of course..."

The answer is, well, about four. The four you see in this puzzle. But that was basically the impetus. I started to brainstorm other possible literal interpretations of superhero names, and thought it would make an interesting variation word search.

One hero that changed (I think for the better) is Hawkman. Originally, you had to find the fictional bird and identify its owner (Fawkes to Albus Dumbledore, for example). It seemed, however, that the connection to hawks, specifically, was slim and that most of the good answers were parrots and owls. I forget who made the connection of Hawkmen to famous pitchmen, but the pun was pretty sweet.

Originally, the puzzle did not have a second step, which meant that you could shortcut a gigantic portion of the solve. I had the iterative word search idea, Adam suggested that I use Wonder Woman and give it the title No Man's Land, and I went to work. I ended up taking some women out of the front part of the puzzle just to make it thematically structured. I feel a bit bad that the women got short shrift here, but I do like that I could showcase some notable female scientists that don't get their fair due while the men in the puzzle get relegated to selling crappy products on TV. Sounds about right.