

Tough as Nails Mini Cryptic #6—Explanations

ACROSS

1. PRIDE both means “lots of lions” and “reason for a parade” this month. Yes, the two are etymologically related, but there’s been enough drift in meaning between the two that this didn’t bother me.
4. PADRE (“member of the military,” as in a military chaplain) is PARE (“trim”) “around” the letter D (“drive” on a car’s gear box).
5. LOADS (“a lot”) is a homophone (“Said”) of LODES (“sources”). The placement of the word “said” next to “sources” indicates that LODES is the wordplay fodder and LOADS is the defined word.

DOWN

1. PAPAL (“of the Vatican”) is PA (“Father”) plus PAL (“friend”). The word “and” in the clue is extraneous, but does not change the cryptic reading.
2. INDYA (“actor Moore,” who plays Angel Evangelista on *Pose*) is hidden (“inside, find”) in the phrase “behIND YArd.”
3. EDENS (“perfect places”) is an anagram (“abnormally”) of NEEDS.