

Rookie Corner 454

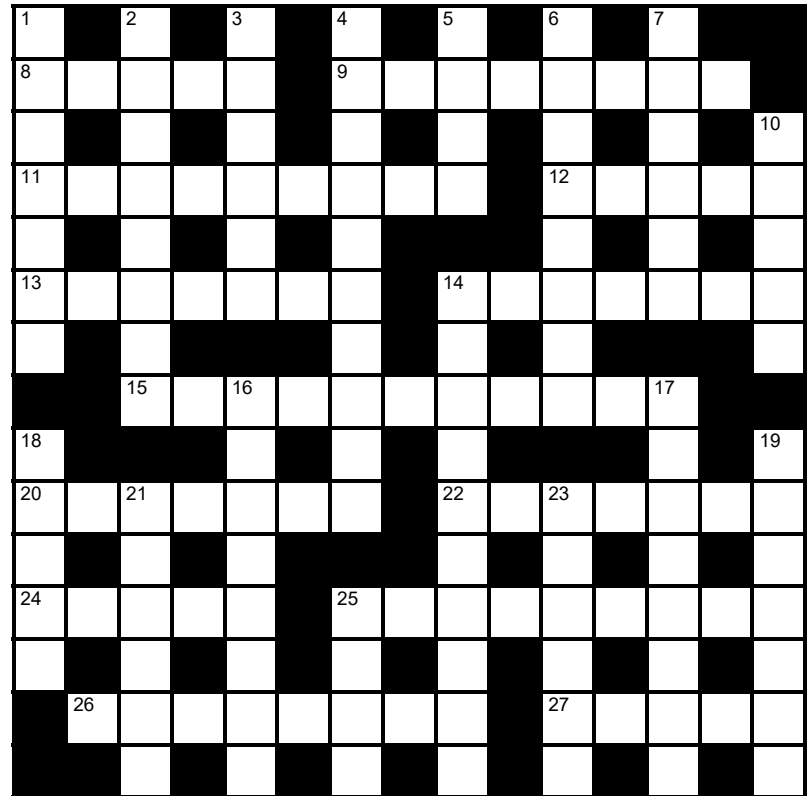
by Madcap

Across

- 8 Arab's returning soon (5)
- 9 Recognised label backed adopting record by Texas first (8)
- 11 Headline news results in discontented rally (4,5)
- 12 Cyclist's condition (5)
- 13 Nationalist terrorist group captures vehicle to bring about liberated state (7)
- 14 Pirate imagined argument following fight (7)
- 15 United? He got extraordinarily inspired by the club (3,8)
- 20 Common liberty ends after ancient city reduced to an oppressive regime (7)
- 22 Bridge - a game for twisters (7)
- 24 Campbell's 8 soup (5)
- 25 Sweet perfume intensified by flower (9)
- 26 Secret special agent from the east about to talk when stripped (8)
- 27 Revelry and frolicking per se (5)

Down

- 1/18 Perhaps Mick fails to collect Kate? (7,5)
- 2 Words are exchanged when she is being played (8)
- 3 Twist of fate is causing celebration (6)
- 4 Left wing or a Conservative? This is where to find out (10)



- 5 Unpleasant and fussy - foremost, no character (4)
- 6 Avenue has double parking in area to fish (8)
- 7 Drinking 27 set up by artless bartender (6)
- 10 "Blackbird" number makes top spot (5)
- 14 I left his hype and lies, reeling with shameful embarrassment (10)
- 16 Taste gin cocktail - it's extremely sharp (8)
- 17 Nothing within listings for those that crow (8)
- 18 See 1
- 19 Proper as a monk might be (2,5)
- 21 Noisy streets in city (6)
- 23 Latest directions (6)
- 25 20 per cent of steps lost in ladders (4)