Some answers lose a letter to the bottom row, becoming new words before entry.

22 Across explains what is going on.

1		2		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12									13			
14	15				16							
17			18	19					20			
				21								
22							23					
		24		25				26		2.7		20
		24		25				20		27		28
29		24		23	30			20	31	21		28
29		32		25	30			20	31 33	21		28
29				25	30	35		26		21		28
					30	35	37	20		21		28

Across

- 1 Former coed excited Alan without hesitation
- **5** Reportedly encounter Greek character's entrée in "Sweeney Todd" (2 wds)
- 12 Lawsuit involving rogue's cataract
- 13 Rushed contestant's last bombastic speech
- 14 Follow instructions of old Turkish leader
- **16** Crazed, capturing chief of tribe having powers of divination
- 17 Pink and red exist
- **19** Ivy, for example, found in ravines
- **20** Badly beat an early software version
- 21 I care about author Jong
- **22** See instructions
- 25 Tried to contact police department? About time!
- 29 Cheer's source
- 30 Starts to ask Luigi about eating wings in Rome
- 31 Predictor of the future for heartless vendor
- 32 Coquette's energy controlled by stun gun
- 33 I am considering former Hungarian Prime Minister Nagy
- **34** Whale's tail seen in sailor's salty water?
- **35** Weapons destroyed vegetable (2 wds)
- **36** Tea set's broken: what's left?
- 37 Rigid shrink ignoring inmate

Down

- 1 Narco busts certain plant product;...
- 2 ...escorts drug dealers, quietly leaving
- 3 Innocent one in church area
- 4 Highly regard commercial muck
- 5 Rev. Spooner's cockeyed military meal is insignificant
- **6** Audibly rate sea eagle
- 7 "Cavities": an art retrospective
- **8** Praise still fills essays
- 9 Certain pro athlete and gym rat primarily receives acknowledgment
- 10 One who sets up political victors harder to believe
- 11 Scottish lord pursues English fuel component
- **15** Attractive women acquiring Thor's jogging attire that is loose-fitting
- 18 French head back, taking bit of comp time and the like (2 wds)
- **22** Cheap box full of shelled nuts (*hyph*)
- 23 Picks up nurses behind meadow
- **24** "Go make lace" is suggested (2 wds)
- **25** Physical therapy involving bowling alley and a *very* large ball?
- 26 Tyrant is clean?
- 27 Office worker initially increased speeds
- 28 Attempt accommodating new tea pact
- **30** A female tennis great