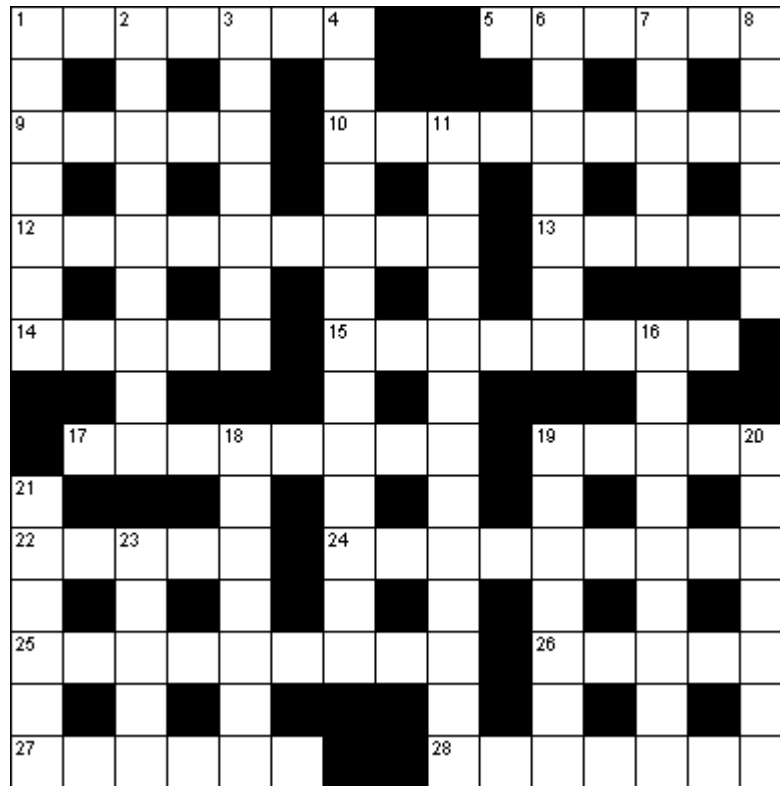


March, 2006

by Kegler



**Across**

- 1 Smile about Crazy Mel, a supposed source of trouble (7)
- 5 Element backing Greek characters keeping certain promise (6)
- 9 Pointer is slender, lacking tip (5)
- 10 Leave Carol, with little taste, spreading rumors (9)
- 12 Dine and drink with fan (9)
- 13 Start reorganizing notes (5)
- 14 Knock out acrobat's last daring feat (5)
- 15 Moved, residing in premium location (8)
- 17 Grant most favorable old law's repeal (8)
- 19 Balance a plate of fish? (5)
- 22 Force one who hasn't paid to follow plan, initially (5)
- 24 Famous marshal perfects listening devices (9)
- 25 Recipient of drink describing gown with energy (9)
- 26 Republican badly ires one on the way up (5)
- 27 Spin secretary-general's retirement, in part (6)
- 28 Interrupted by yells of pain, Dr. Edward napped (7)

**Down**

- 1 Good girls in spectacles (7)
- 2 Excitedly rerun tape for thrill (9)
- 3 Economical at sea, netting white cod, mostly... (3-4)
- 4 ...near fishing boats stocked with cold bait (5,8)
- 6 Ultimately, radio operator jamming less dire (7)
- 7 One competes for prestigious universities (5)
- 8 Heard my drink is strong (6)
- 11 Reformed drinker helps a water distributor (9,4)
- 16 Rejecting help, soldiers taking numbers for identification (9)
- 18 Singer Mel, not heartless, is suffering (7)
- 19 Working chores, catching Berlioz's final musical composition (7)
- 20 Made certain condemned is guillotined (7)
- 21 Informed about hype for "Jumped" (6)
- 23 We're almost finished fencing spot for marsh bird (5)