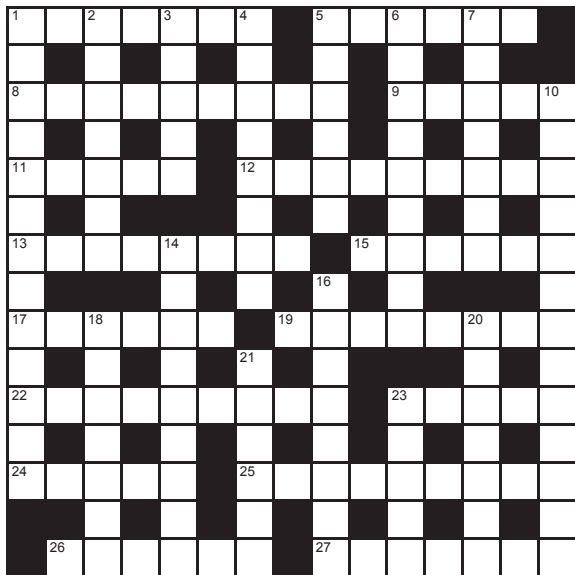


CROSSWORD

No. 14,166 Set by PHSSTHPOK



ACROSS

- 1 Wallowing in obsession with airline (7)
- 5 Protection from sky or land (3,3)
- 8 Ruler courts mark of approval (9)
- 9 Throws up boundary for discussion (5)
- 11 Knot of love in bouquet (5)
- 12 Mine chases red stone (6-3)
- 13 Without resistance, rotated to different beat (8)
- 15 Ticket to stunt performing (6)
- 17 Artificial sweeteners last three times foremost ingredient of extreme characters (6)
- 19 Spooky sorceress beheaded after draining energy from tribal chief (8)
- 22 Move for dance to be a square dance (9)
- 23 Protection for film gangster losing highest card (5)
- 24 Below par, score drugs with silver left inside (5)
- 25 Love a party piece (9)
- 26 Afterthought to cage horse with lions (6)
- 27 Chemical affecting frequency of lice infestation? (7)

DOWN

- 1 Unthinkable to go after the feeble (6,3,4)
- 2 Eject from horse racing abroad (4,3)
- 3 Is Susan bonding with children? (5)
- 4 Good locust head irritates bugs (8)
- 5 Joint centre for costume jewellery (6)
- 6 Internal parts for spare servo I rescued from depot (9)
- 7 Coppola directed spirits with youthful appeal (7)
- 10 Be unable to decide how to detain criminal? (3,2,3,5)
- 14 Continuously sheltering those people in recovery (2,3,4)
- 16 Fluorescent crystal goes down toilet (4,4)
- 18 Boast of success with bet winning a grand (7)
- 20 Empress poisons soldiers with nerve gas (7)
- 21 Peers at sign (6)
- 23 Old wound takes time to plug (5)

JOTTER PAD

Solution to Saturday's prize puzzle on Saturday December 1
Solution to yesterday's prize puzzle on Monday December 3
Crossword winners' names will be printed in Weekend FT