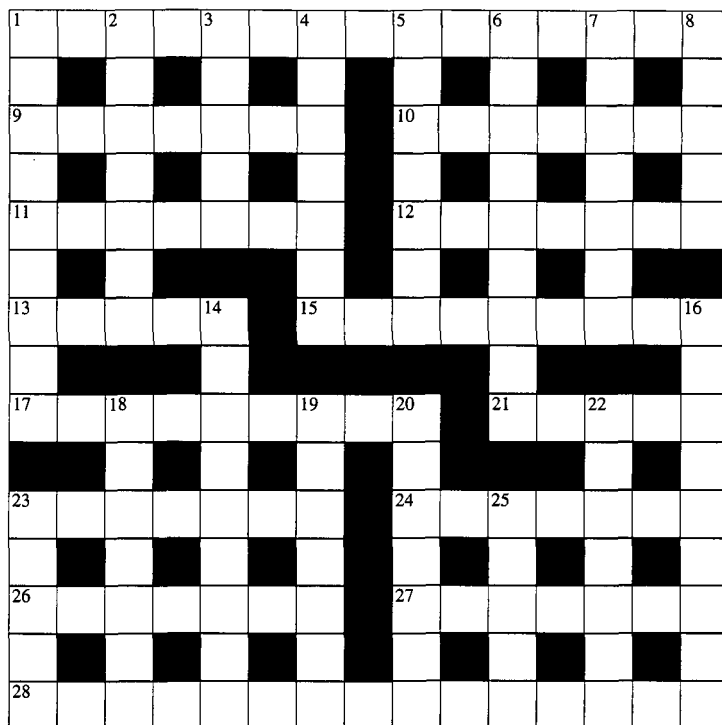


Political Puzzle

BY JOHN BARCLAY

The numbers indicate the number of letters and words, e.g. (2,3) means a two-letter word followed by a three-letter word. Groups of letters, e.g. USA, are treated as one word.



ACROSS

1. Washington's VIPs who make press event a rite. (15)
9. Nat takes in member for group. (7)
10. Pub's set up around coffee pot and goes down in flames. (5,2)
11. Draw big company car backing to start of trail. (7)
12. Took charge and teed Art off. (7)
13. Army type confused dime and cent. (5)
15. Posed nude, rated some alcohol. (9)
17. New England institution made mud art hot. (9)
21. State short series for early bird, for example. (5)
23. Does not fall for strolling sisters. (7)
24. Since traveling, see Cuba. (7)
26. Brass playing on cello. (7)
27. Make up Colorado poems in new style. (7)

28. Freed con wins Detroit's focus of each of 1 Across. (15)

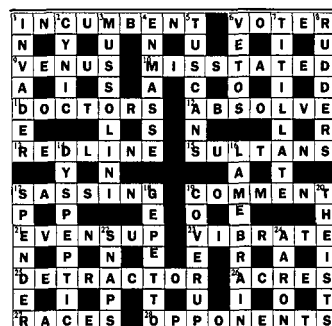
DOWN

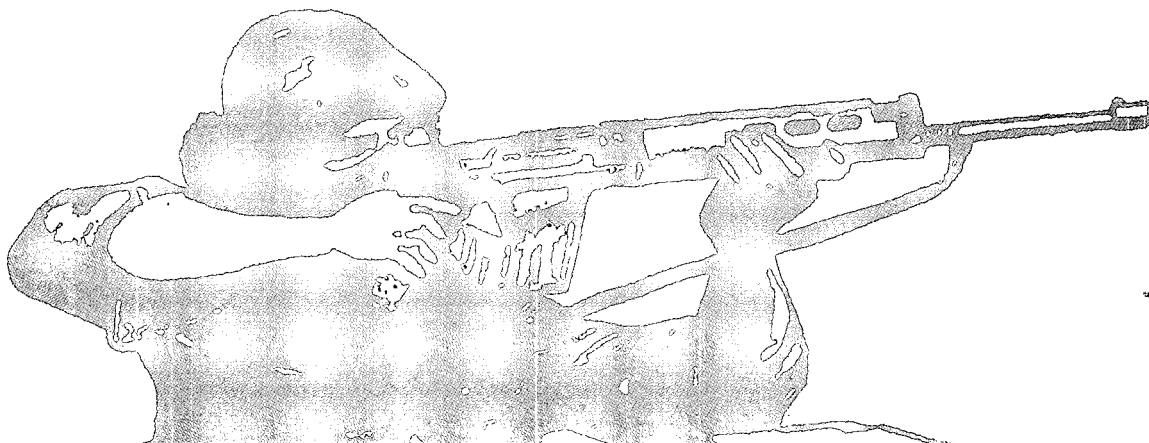
1. Made new use of idle cream blend. (9)
2. Steered particular piper around house site. (7)
3. Last word coming back to Europe's first therapy. (5)
4. In retrospect take out around catch-all. (7)
5. Asian live in giant embrace. (7)
6. Enemy catches team between peaks. (9)
7. Stranger thing in part of headgear. (7)
8. Renovated pad is tasteful. (5)
14. Inherits some tonic mixture. (5,4)
16. Max set up nerd's date. (9).
18. Separate lovers playing before start of engag-

ment. (7)

19. Greek character mixed lions up. (7)
20. Grill composer after greeting and initial introduction. (7)
22. Fancy dessert shakes up Simon. (7)
23. On right side in returning Perot certificate. (5)
25. December team member finds me in bed. (5)

Answers to last month's puzzle:





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