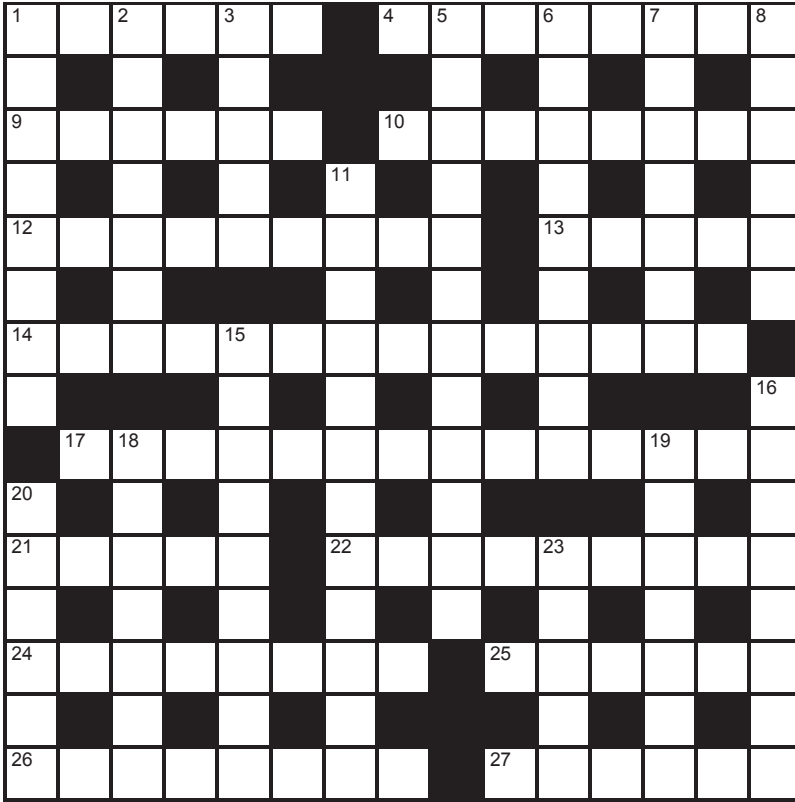


CROSSWORD

No 16,791 Set by BUCCANEER



ACROSS

- 1 Heard solver initially gets kudos, cracking puzzle (6)
- 4 Help to recall retreating soldiers during day in charge (8)
- 9 Everton's lead star trashed unknown substitute (6)
- 10 Hint of olive oil, some tossed: an Italian standard (1,4,3)
- 12 Run into US city slum at a leisurely pace (9)
- 13 Republican's left to guarantee result (5)
- 14 Majesty's clothing given imperious quality (4-10)
- 17 Note evil establishment's fake news (14)
- 21 Perhaps suck the oxygen out of artist (5)
- 22 Cable from detainee I don't know, short message (5,4)
- 24 Warmth from aristocrat backing US neighbour (8)
- 25 Not broadcasting old dalliance, a non-starter (3-3)
- 26 He and I, say, heating devices (8)
- 27 Key aspect of female gender and male gender (6)

DOWN

- 1 Sneaky way to get fit topless (8)
- 2 Cross-dressing apparel's kept somewhat drier (7)
- 3 Wiping up sauce boat (5)
- 5 Number 20 pulls out matches that won't set the world on fire (2-5,5)
- 6 Philosopher has terribly inane periods (9)
- 7 Undoing Natalie's jacket I covered in jam (7)
- 8 Jug in the fridge, perhaps (6)
- 11 One wearing fine tank-top out maybe mugged thus (2,5-5)
- 15 Ethanol is drunk, a drop of something hard (9)
- 16 Italian side like Liverpool in the ground (8)
- 18 Unsophisticated girl and Frank moving in (7)
- 19 Take off tie, and I'm at work! (7)
- 20 Like nosh the European President's almost thrown up (6)
- 23 Sack or fire one (5)

JOTTER PAD

Solution 16,790

