



THE PUZZLER

by EMILY COX and HENRY RATHVON

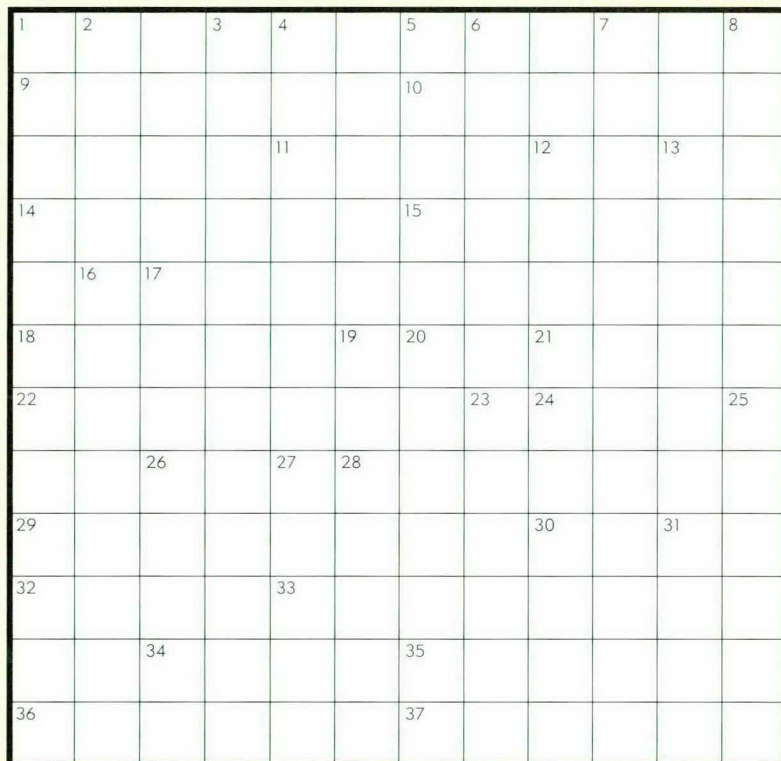
Cryptic Buffet

This month's offering is a feast of sorts. Heavy bars and answer lengths are withheld, but if bars were shown they would appear the same with the grid turned 180 degrees. Once all clue answers have been entered, a number of empty squares will remain; these should be circled. Each empty square's missing letter is supplied by an unclued buffet item running through it diagonally (up, down, left, or right); these foods have something in common. By reading the circled portions from left to right, solvers will be able to identify the meal. Eleven clue answers are capitalized; the answers to 35 Across and 16 Down are uncommon.

Last month's Puzzler solution is on page 194.

ACROSS

1. Something chewy and cold found in part of South America
5. Roughly push around irrational figure lacking in humility
9. Domestic quality about uncle and dad (*two words*)
10. Running after Number Twelve
11. Diplomacy took a new direction in speech
12. Fresh additive for tea
14. Pass over captain of a curling team
15. Hermit keeping guard for a greater span of time
17. Assist in amusement with last of sea animals
18. Close northern canal site
20. Excited head of state had a puff of pot
22. People accustomed to snow in June ski more
24. Iron out film genre
28. Signed new Nike deal at the outset
29. Bulldogs and boxer in agreement
30. I am a mosque's leader!
32. Brood left in bazaar
33. Hog eating final bit of gift pack



34. Contemtable foundation
35. Turning lid, see large beer mug
36. Evenly distributed name for either gender
37. Picking up check, a Communist made a bow

DOWN

1. Coaches treating talk-show host
2. Vandal with \$1000 is handsome guy
3. Stay in a tent with a Rhode Island liqueur
4. Oaf going around Italy departed (*two words*)
5. Open can plus plastic
6. American author's kitty fine
7. Jones who made designs in one pass
8. Racer walked behind Vietnam War figure (*two words*)
13. Nymph that is back in the clutches of misfit

16. Network running across rare sea urchins
19. Damp items on crackers
21. Love nuts in rice; it's like a dream
22. After cathedral town, tour French palace
23. Run through end of link in underground pipe
25. Regarding medium aged fashion anew
26. Goodness of a store's second row pronounced (*two words*)
27. Out of order, like private dining?
31. A word of wonder for a 1958 Pulitzer winner

Note: The instructions above are for this month's puzzle only. It is assumed that you know how to decipher clues. For a complete introduction to clue-solving send an addressed, stamped long envelope to The Atlantic Puzzler, 77 North Washington Street, Boston, Mass. 02114.