

THE PUZZLER

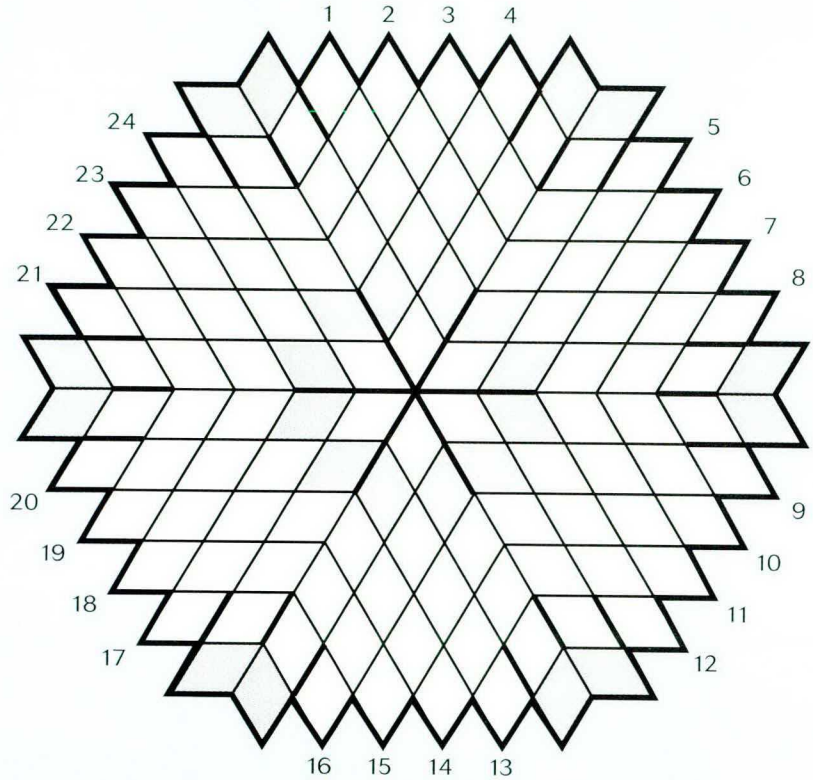
by EMILY COX and HENRY RATHVON



Crystal Ball

Answers to this puzzle's numbered ("Clear") clues go in the unshaded cells along the paths indicated by the clue numbers. For example, the first answer at 1-8 starts in the cell marked 1 and goes southeast in the first four cells along the path toward 8; the second goes east in the four unshaded cells after the heavy bar, ending in the cell marked 8. Some entries follow a bending path from border to border. "Unclear" answers, each six letters long, are clued in random order. These should be entered radially from one of the shaded border cells to one of the central cells or vice versa. Half go inward and half go outward; each passes through two shaded cells. Their places in the grid can be determined with help from the Clear entries. By reading the shaded cells clockwise from the one pointing upward in the uppermost left, solvers will discover the nature of the Crystal Ball (on the perimeter) and a prediction (within). Nine clue answers are capitalized.

Last month's Puzzler solution is on page 164.



- | CLEAR | |
|-------|--|
| 1-8 | Brazilian lady love involved in element of destiny? (4)
Portent's unlimited significance (4) |
| 2-7 | Bottle for brandy and container for beer found in bar (8) |
| 3-6 | Eat up, having wandered back outside (6) |
| 5-12 | Destined for following gold car (4)
A group of geese along English river (4) |
| 6-11 | Observe Spielberg creation put up for sale again (8) |
| 7-10 | Doctor's name broadcast (6) |
| 9-16 | I camped in park with a rabbit-like creature (4)
Something spouted, "As you were saying?" (4) |
| 10-15 | Step on the scale with meadow mice, holding five in turns (8) |
| 11-14 | Milton playing woman in comedy (6) |

- | | | |
|-------|---|---|
| 13-20 | Jack and I have exaggerated talk (4)
Garment left in collection of materials (4) | b. Terrible thirst for casual wear (<i>hyphenated</i>) |
| 14-19 | Holiday approaches, consuming "Y" (3,5) | c. Gold Glover taking part in Buffalo marathon |
| 15-18 | Became aware of polar opposites in offspring (6) | d. Tug returns after you and I rise to the surface (<i>two words</i>) |
| 17-24 | In audience, provoke crown (4)
Small nose full of punch (4) | e. Place nearby post office in cathedral area |
| 18-23 | Baboon chomped down on something boring (5,3) | f. Dad clumsily handles fruits |
| 19-22 | Second fruit oozes (6) | g. Sulfur found in dead leaf added to a journal |
| 21-4 | Traps belonging to Du Bois (4)
Earned high marks on an album including Beethoven's Third (4) | h. A ramshackle farm with empty building (<i>hyphenated</i>) |
| 22-3 | Drew is on the way back, given a ring (8) | i. Hawthorne heroine has partying need, oddly |
| 23-2 | Stand for consequences of too much acid? (6) | j. Chewer of scenery suffered tragedy |
| | | k. South end of Laredo, and not a place in Mexico |
| | | l. Floor material on a slant missing middle piece |

UNCLEAR

- a. Section of glass capturing a victory dance

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.