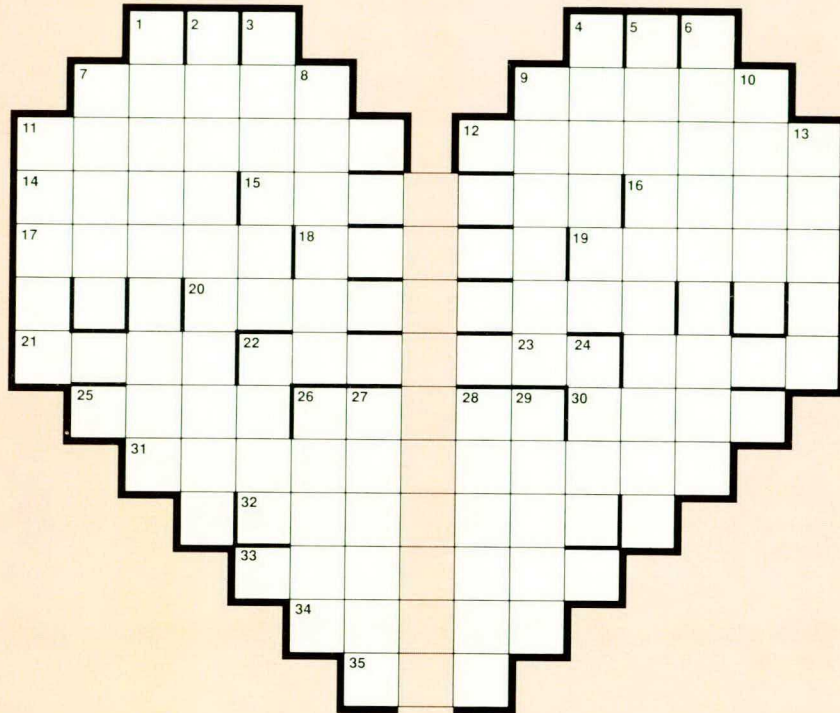


# THE PUZZLER

BY EMILY COX AND HENRY RATHVON

## HEARTBROKEN

Answers to this puzzle are to be entered normally. Each Across entry that spans the central fracture skips over an empty square, leaving an unfilled space in the heart of the word. But a new word can be formed if solvers enter the proper central letter; and the 10 letters thus entered, reading from top to bottom, provide the answer to this riddle: "What can you use to mend a broken heart?" Clue answers include nine proper words (one an abbreviation). New Across words formed by adding central letters include one proper noun.



*The solution to last month's Puzzler appears on page 83.*

### ACROSS

7. Firm declined to keep operator (5)
9. Sing mostly about one Alpine region (5)
11. Trinket I let Bob rent (7)
12. Pink rings covering diadem (7)
14. Western city restricted a person from the east (4)
15. King of France, in backing top Beethoven symphony (6)
16. Five-nothing; the heartless decision (4)
17. Reagan, after seizing Guam's capital (5)
18. It's a pity a girl has to be heard (4)
19. Before covering, almost catch cold (5)
20. Dee is feeding an idiot dim sum (8)
21. Handles decapitated fish (4)
22. Grabbed by glutton, diarist is getting edgy? (6)

24. Start off hazy and chill (4)
25. Series' second assist following gamble (4)
26. Name for a dog the man put in Spanish (4)
30. Blame attached to our people (4)
31. Swinger's activity Canseco did badly (10) (*two words*)
32. Studying course in Italy with gang (6)
33. Ran after the leader got weak (6)
34. Volumes lacking 1,000 digits (4)
35. State of Andy's heart (2)

### DOWN

1. Bad hole in new sort of boot? (9)
2. Synthetic stuff keeps years and years and years (that's redundant) (10)
3. Part of Palestine's military initiative (6)
4. Sign about a shrew (6)
5. Origin of hot spot in spring (10)
6. Pout about refusal to record speech (9)
7. Oddly, sniper goes for military blockade (5)
8. Fish-catcher brought up trouble with dolphin (6)
9. Said poison is an alarming thing (6)
10. Romance in note after note after note (5)
11. Couple of second-rate people (5)
13. Shelf's long border (5)
22. Bears quietly getting closer (8)
23. Heartlessly operating bell (4)
26. "Run DMC" ultimately gets into smut (5)
27. Fictional elephant's height or weight (6)
28. Edward repeatedly has it changed (6)
29. Pronounced aches in sides (5)

**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 envelope to The Atlantic Puzzler, 745 Boylston Street, Boston, Mass. 02116.