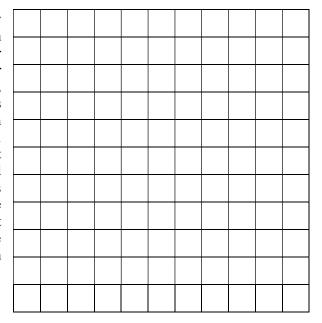
Puzzle #34 – March 2004 "Fair Play"

Instructions: Guess the words defined by the cryptic clues (words vary in length from three to nine letters and include three proper names), then enter them in the grid one after another in the same order as their clues, starting in the upper left corner. Across words that don't end at the right margin continue on the next line below; down words that don't end at the bottom margin continue in the next column to the right. Four across words and five down words won't fit in the grid unless one of their letters is omitted. Those nine letters, taken in order, spell a word that suggests how all words are to be treated before they are entered in the grid. As ever, I am grateful to Kevin Wald for help with the clues.



Across

- 1. Quiet finesse captures one vessel
- 2. Submissive cry of cat
- 3. A block style of furniture
- 4. Furtiveness of the last movement
- 5. Purple backing in the cupboard
- 6. Stout? Removing a dress takes time
- 7. Function without Latin
- 8. Flat surface of Roman bread
- 9. Near a shifting field of action
- 10. Image is worthless in expression
- 11. Combined and flavored with core of salep
- 12. Earthy nude man shimmying
- 13. Sound law restrains holy one
- 14. Exclude bishop and horse
- 15. Minicar used to secure fallen flyer
- 16. Hall with male fish
- 17. Romantic muddle involves hot genetic material
- 18. Pierce top of paper stack
- 19. Find most of hair consumed
- 20. An element can rise when converted
- 21. Dour nature's in trouble

Down

- 1. Confine one after another by proclamation
- 2. Strive for a pinnacle
- 3. Chemical extraction of coffee's terpenes
- 4. After end of toast, everyone's high
- 5. Force is certain to follow before end of crisis
- 6. Address a beginning class from time to time
- 7. Strange mania about Earth leads to bad blood
- 8. A no-hitter is not in order
- 9. Expert turns in because . . .
- 10. . . . leftover rice gets mixed with last of cereal
- 11. Not in favor of study
- 12. Star owns 500-acre area in Africa
- 13. Associate with wild bonobo, getting hit for nothing
- 14. Father and uncle of Picasso meet in courtyard
- 15. Cipher about weapon upset associate
- 16. Reported pitch leads to a fly
- 17. Cargo coming down without number
- 18. Arawak culture has reversal of fortune
- 19. One federation colony member is more than enough
- 20. Shrewd cop returns with drunk one
- 21. Network doesn't begin to make a point
- 22. Leaders go after vehicle with a company of travelers
- 23. In addition, bird gets bone