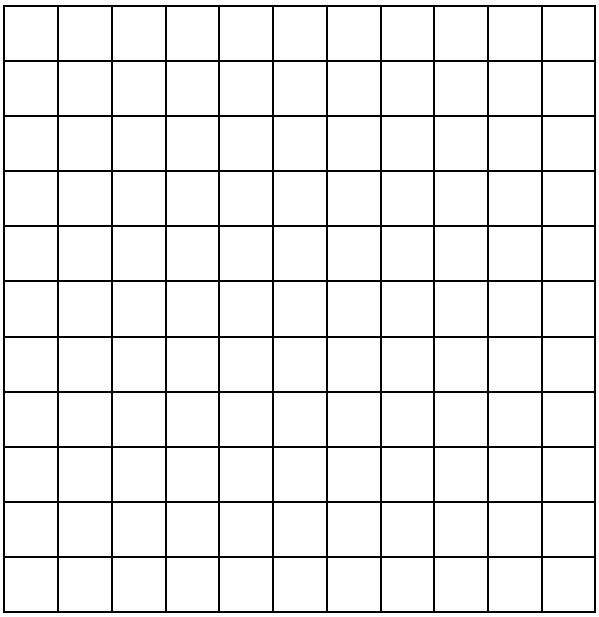
Puzzle #127 –December 2011 "Dreaming"

Instructions: Guess the words defined by the cryptic clues (answers vary in length from three to nine letters, and six are capitalized) 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 continue on the next row, and down words that don't end at the bottom continue in the next column. Seven across words and seven down words won't fit in the grid unless one of their letters is removed. Those fourteen letters, taken in order as they occur in across and down words, spell a two-word phrase related to the mystery entries. Thanks to Kevin Wald for test-solving and editing this puzzle.



Across

1. *Mystery entry*
2. Circuit game turns around
3. Hands remove head of fastener
4. Leech wiggling on step
5. Travesty of switch in wages
6. Cook immersed in wastewater
7. Cover article about Tom Brady, perhaps
8. Intern scrambled to get a board
9. A cough is the result of diseased tissues being deprived of energy
10. Ultimately without love, Pope Leo debased humankind
11. Friar Oberon's habit
12. "Wheat" written the old way
13. Denatured Lysol snares electron only
14. Schoolbook dealer holds page
15. Chairman's name
16. Parable about embracing the legal fraternity
17. No time to think or intercede
18. Coolidge catches six carp
19. City initially headed administrative district
20. Alanine reaction reversed with enzyme
21. In rush, make Rod new tip
22. Papa moving again, to a region in South America
23. *Mystery entry*

Down

1. Fees involving one in contradictions
2. *Mystery entry*
3. Initially neutral in color is made lighter, finally, in restoration
4. Dad with Latin friend
5. Move without new group
6. Little lad is actively in prep
7. Score one before start of cricket frenzy
8. Get strong lift in sound
9. Long-faced female takes in jarhead
10. Baby carriage in street bumping into cylinder
11. Beagle trying to eat young bird
12. Deterioration hasn't begun in building extension
13. Coin turned up in the middle
14. Failed comic gets back for circus's opening
15. Sailor isn't keeping primate
16. Gas consumed infant
17. Bar goes up for story-teller
18. Driver support
19. More honest money handler gives up one shilling
20. Duck running late
21. Penny repaired a solar umbrella
22. Mom isn't crazy for insect order
23. *Mystery entry*
24. One in a vehicle is like a bird