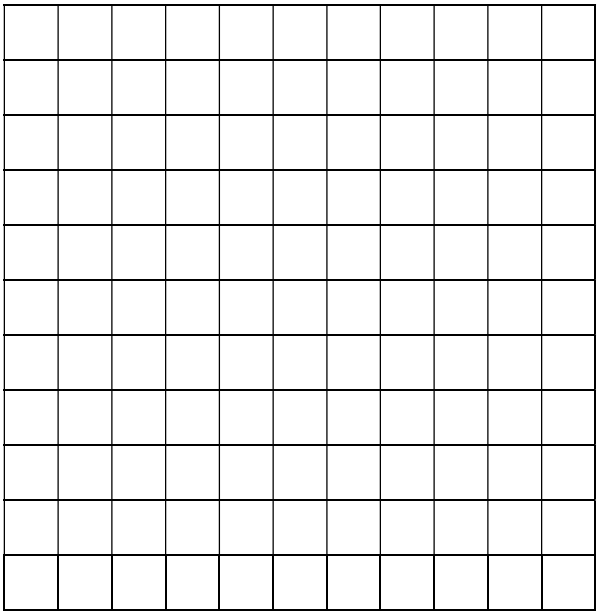
Puzzle #37 – June 2004 "Stop By"

Instructions: Guess the words defined by the cryptic clues (words vary in length from four to nine letters and include two 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. Three across words and three down words won't fit in the grid unless one of their letters is removed. Those six letters, taken in order, spell a two-word phrase that explains how five across and five down words must be altered before they will fit in the grid. As ever, I am grateful to Kevin Wald for help with the clues.



Across

1. Give about half of mint for control
2. Said rule is most important
3. Adding all but the last container of rainwater
4. Complete unfinished talk after turnover
5. Summer snake
6. Sexually aroused by Harvard and Yale, Ron runs from one to the other
7. Cut off one lamb's head, or a few
8. See skunk's head removed from strip
9. Medieval servant or seamstress
10. Sent up and shown the way around many times
11. One flipping over a German musical
12. Take off this French fabric
13. Mother ingests last of rotting pomace
14. Relieve friend harboring incipient allergy
15. Nerve ending exposed in beheading of teacher
16. Stadium ball
17. Developmental stage in evolving strain
18. French newspaper wrapped around a beverage
19. Dodge tip of skewer point
20. Inquisitive about content of many songs
21. Phylactery takes a rest
22. Sibling gets brooch for one maiden

Down

1. Exquisite, fashionable shirt found within 24 hours
2. Nitrogen found in fruit juice residue
3. No meal is improved by wheat grits
4. Sense of embarrassment is identical with shy heart
5. Start the run with enough tread
6. Rotating vessels is a piece of cake
7. Announcing drink at the rear
8. Those who clean up without scruple and those who right wrongs
9. English duet adapted for musical study
10. MP wears cunning head cover
11. Daydream about five Native Americans
12. Whipped, beheaded, and consumed
13. In progressive cycle, legislative assembly splits up
14. Distant mile to training camp
15. Marx turns up as TV star
16. Rotate, turning right to left, and hang loose
17. Supervise cow
18. City base taking on new circus performer
19. Safety center only provoked crime
20. Bird to measure and determine concentration
21. Cognizant of one battle error
22. Trouble point northeast of bridge
23. Roller 2D has radical ending

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