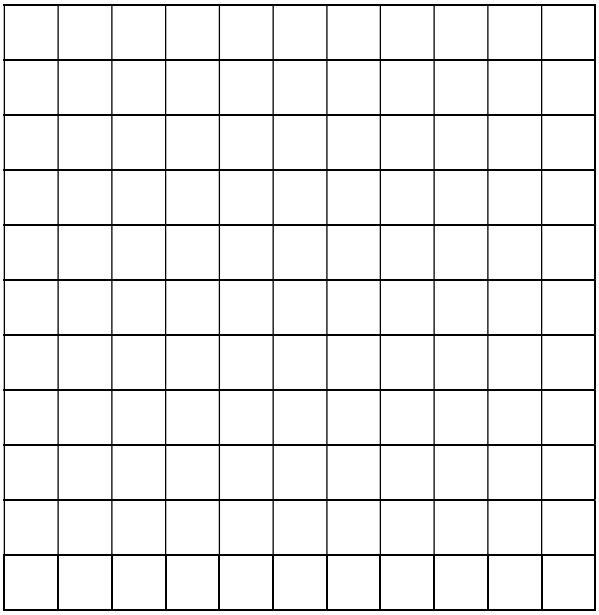
Puzzle #48 – May 2005 "Higgledy-piggledy"



Instructions: This puzzle contains an unusual feature explained below. First, as usual, guess the words defined by the cryptic clues (words vary in length from three to nine letters), 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, and down words that don't end at the bottom margin continue in the next column. Six across words and seven down words won't fit in the grid unless one of their letters is removed. Those thirteen letters, taken in order, spell a hyphenated word related to a *second* hyphenated word formed by eight unchecked letters. Four of the unchecked letters belong in the down words they're part of, but not in any across words, which they may interrupt. The other four letters belong in the across words they're part of, but similarly not in any down words. These eight unmeshed letters – taken in order in down words from left to right, and in across words from top to bottom – spell the second hyphenated word. As ever, I am grateful to Kevin Wald for help with the clues.

Across

1. Quiet talk with Len about a weapon of war
2. Give up five in all for metal and mineral
3. Troop leader's motive for betrayal
4. Royal lady and fashionable companion featured in media
5. Allegiance has support
6. Head of big farm and family line
7. Gourmet presented essentially timeless image
8. Bird egg put into shrub, for real
9. Nothing in hand to palm off
10. Article edited after removing a widow
11. In a direction bearing opposite to the zenith
12. Was inquisitive about a ray initially deflected
13. Northeastern portal leads to void
14. Started top layer next
15. Some men with an idea that goes around
16. Able to absorb half of each loss
17. Love a tarnished halo
18. Untangle a knot confining escape
19. Republican in primary has a place for boats
20. Follower is pickled silly after king's abdication
21. Two times in labor on warship

Down

1. Polished poesy can't leave a letter out
2. Avoid run in brief play
3. Pop star wins approval for a necklace
4. Enrich a meal with meat
5. Examine components in projectile's front and rear
6. Goddess goes back to procreate
7. Measure head of tall primate
8. Coin in broken pieces
9. District includes new theater
10. Elevator set on fire with flame starter
11. Pleasant Mediterranean city
12. Instant dispatch about deadly gas
13. Soliloquy artist with record up in Maine
14. Passage out of Melanesia
15. Bear north for Anchorage
16. Bay horse takes large harness
17. Hear girl getting seduced
18. Policeman has to relax before beginning to earn a high level of respect
19. Prosaic volume with a dreadful ending
20. Missile brought back to earth in exchange
21. Put core of currant in cocktail for newsman
22. Initial statement that introduces page about outward appearance

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