

Puzzle #21 – February 2003 "By The Horns"

Instructions: Guess the words defined by the cryptic clues (words vary in length from three to ten 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 below; down words that don't end at the bottom margin continue in the next column to the right. Six across words and five down words won't fit in the grid unless one of their letters is removed. Those eleven letters, taken in order, spell a two-word phrase related to another two-word phrase hidden in the completed grid that solvers are invited to find. Answers include four proper names and one hyphenated word. As ever, I am grateful to Kevin Wald for help with the clues.

Across

1. Surface vessel's speed around town
2. Open at lunch irregularly
3. Delete *Times* error
4. Proclamation cited incorrectly
5. Discordant noise envelops head of caged songbird
6. Author Rorty's abomination
7. Start casing a Chinese gambler's place
8. Train with assistant football player
9. Parrot with weight as a comedian
10. Place for storing loose soil
11. Free tempo, timeless verse
12. Grand shelter gives joy
13. Poisoned lure again causes pain
14. Instrument breaking down in a mess
15. Fail in credit, to be more precise
16. Glutted and unhappy about starting to eat
17. Also let off to play the flute
18. Jack and king at center of church
19. Campus announcement about Asian port
20. Watched and heard what's on stage
21. No charge for speech
22. Credit with formerly starting trade agreement

Down

1. See garlic mashed in profanation
2. Religious raving due to inspiring verse
3. Everything Spanish is a bother in English
4. Not up to par as a result of stress?
5. Initiate peaceful performance agreement
6. Course in prep at Harvard
7. Collars fashioned without a decoration
8. Deviating route
9. Packet's contents rearranged for cover
10. Poke icky stuff with tips of spike
11. Mostly dry southeastern spring
12. Claiming one is very wet
13. Journal of lactation
14. Definitely having an egg
15. Storm reported by highlander
16. Smell reported by cons
17. Sulfur by itself turning up in chemicals
18. Save notes with prompting
19. Get sharp in phonetics
20. Crooked wakes
21. Approve finish before rose wilts
22. Residence said to have style
23. Money left by a Gershwin
24. Moment at home with small, bronze head of Tutankhamen