

Cryptic • by RK

Wednesday, February 19, 2025



~1 hr

ACROSS

- 1, 9-across**
Ruin contests changing match venues (6,6)
- 4** Seizes broods (8)
- 9** See 1-across
- 10** Like us in retirement – old and relieved (8)
- 12** Cheer up short Hogwarts professor by putting duck in clothes (4,3,2,2)
- 15** Furiously gripe about nasty group's advantage (9)
- 16** Send Yahoo content back to composer (5)
- 17, 3-down**
Colon in title enrages, weirdly (5,9)
- 18** Deduct 50+ with South Melbourne development (9)
- 19** Star shone on new actress (6,5)
- 22** Pest lies, changing letters (8)
- 24** Left after son stuffed in extra mouthful (6)
- 25** Stone thing wears oddly?
Reportedly yes (5,3)
- 26** Floor when telling tale (6)

DOWN

- 1** Check parasite (4)
- 2** She takes vows about love for a person, for example (4)
- 3** See 17-across
- 5** Get angry when loose console plays up (4,4,4)
- 6** Poke fun at relative after last night (5)
- 7** Very successful greeting discussed – loud and deceptive (4-6)
- 8** Direction transforms sad and tense to dignified calm (10)
- 11** She had a berry design for her sewing items (12)
- 13** Nothing fades with coin colourfully shimmering (10)
- 14** Deceptive change of hands results in interpreting incorrectly (10)
- 16** Take note of covers album where French artist ultimately shared the load (6,3)
- 19** Unlimited gamble for cute swimmer? (5) *OTTER*
- 21** Ruler talks strategy around Republican leaders (4)
- 22** Speak about Lima and do a fantastic job (4)