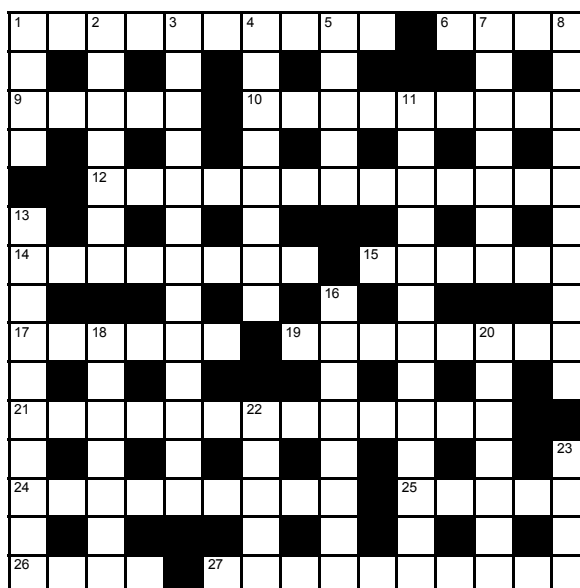


JDE 324

Across

- 1 They pull strings at Lord's, holding up stroke (10)
- 6 Boast about clothing (4)
- 9 Elementary degree, as stated (5)
- 10 Easy C.O.? Phantom captures this person who is sucking up (9)
- 12 Finally, sea covers new crashed Ford entirely (4,3,3,3)
- 14 I saw not a blooming flower (8)
- 15 War is way to fire stupidly (6)
- 17 Is jealous of Elgin's first cultivated vines (6)
- 19 Speaks after holy person hesitates (8)
- 21 Wheel? Place to change direction (7,6)
- 24 Wake up too late - retired - take off after deliveries (9)
- 25 Bring back one tax over little Namibian town (5)
- 26 Shiver, missing summer's opening fish (4)
- 27 Fred fumbles payment and loses parking - and payment! (10)



- 20 Leave out note about raise (7)
- 22 They make us down, wow, scorning encouraging starts (5)
- 23 Fade with one last blast out the middle (4)

Down

- 1 Lift up edges of blocks and bars (4)
- 2 I don't know about disappearance of First Couple from collapse (4,3)
- 3 Exchanged one's cycle and paid for reference works (13)
- 4 Thrilled to be still after earthquake havoc ends (8)
- 5 Diced one in road (5)
- 7 Parents have hearts to enable lazy quality (7)
- 8 Gamble on broken leg finally able to work for big star (10)
- 11 Procedure for, say, damaged cot of mine (13)
- 13 Small (tiny) abstainer loves the brief preference for sugar (5,5)
- 16 Holiday-maker follows sun and she takes off (8)
- 18 Cheat minister turning up to nuke movement (7)