

BANG!

- SOLUTION TO LAST ISSUE'S PUZZLE

Last issue's puzzle required solvers to fill in blanks being shot in some clues in order to parse them correctly. Aptly, the blanks could all be filled with the last names of US presidents, given with the clue explanations below. Filling in the grid and reading along the axes as shown at left (after adding the final P to the bull's-eye) revealed an appropriate lyric from *Merrily We Roll Along*: IT'S A HIT, IT'S A HIT, IT'S A PALPABLE HIT!

Clue Notes

(* indicates an anagram)

- Ring One* 1. aria + T 2. "at sea"* inside b(-oa)t 3. [...economic LEVEL AND line...] b(usiness) + racket 4. [...and BUS Having...] l + car + (-b)us 5. PE + achiest 6. "fill" homophone 7. "lapse"* 8. "dots" reversal + g(-aller)y 9. "low" rev. + fish
- Ring Two* 1. AC + Ute 2. al(-l) + PS 3. bare inside "act"* 4. [...those who OVERSaw...] "doges" holding l 5. el(bio)f rev. 6. [NIX ONE...] (-c)hair 7. [...OmaHA? YES] (-oma)ha + st. + Y 8. [HeART HURt...] "heart"* + s(-lurs) 9. s(-ome)w(-h)at + s(on)
- Ring Three* 1. "a bat it"* 2. "body"* holding G 3. "shaft" moving S to end 4. pal + ace 5. [sCARTErribbly...] "scar"* holding ET 6. s(hort) + hiatus switching last two letters 7. [Leah MAD IS ONE...] w(ildlife) + "Leah"*
- Ring Four* 1. grAB A CASE 2. D + "ebola"* 3. place(-bos) 4. [was iT RUM AND tequila...] "was it"* + t(equila) + h(usband) 5. [affected aREA GANG leader...] a(rea) + g(ang) inside sty 6. IURId
- Ring Five* 1. [quiT AFTEr...] "lab's"* + (qui)t 2. [resTYLE Rustic...] "rustic"* 3. WITH A CAntilevered 4. double definition 5. [cyborG RAN Training...] cYbOrG rAn
- Ring Six* 1. Al + "I cry at"* 2. "tacit"* 3. [graze FOR Day...] "dab" switching g(raze) for d(ay)
- Ring Seven* 1. [...for A DAMSel...] "trial"* containing "tag"

