

YOU GOTTA GET A GIMMICK - SOLUTION TO LAST ISSUE'S PUZZLE

For each clue, letters were to be stripped from either the wordplay portion of the clue, the definition portion or the answer. Taken by set in clue order, these letters (in **boldface** below) answered the question "Why have the three ladies been so concerned about bringing novelty to their routines?": THEIR CAREERS HAVE ALL BEEN SLOW TAKING OFF.

Clue Notes

Across 1. "used on car" anagram; wordplay missing **T** 10. "R.E.M. LP is" anag.; simp**Ler** 11. "most...angelic" initials; wp - **H** 13. "remote" anag. + s(treaks); mete**Ors** 14. fo(or)r reversed; wp - **E** 15. "smoke" anag.; wp - **I** 16. f(a, C)ete + d(ate); definition: "wit**H** surfaces" 19. ""smut l" anag; wp - **R** 21. L+"weary" anag.; la**W**yer 22. "A lens" anag.; def:"**A**dams in photography" 25. "la not a" rev.; def: "no**V**el harmonically" 26. "heist duo" anag.; hideou**Ts** 29. "alas nun" anag.; annu**Al**s 31. "care + it" homophone.; def: "a little **fE**ast for a rabbit" 32. (-li)berate; def: "to act like a vir**A**go" 33. lo(g[lazier])an; def: "somewhere to get p**L**anes in MA" 34. s(l[little])icker; slic**Ker**; "roars upset" anag.; def: "reptiles that **fL**ew"

Down 2. n(-akednes)s containing IX + i.e.; nix**les** 3. "poet" anag.; wp - **C** 4. (pa)re(nt) + mor(s[aving])e; def: "rueful acceptance of **B**lame" 5. (-H[orse])ostel; wp - **A** 6. "aims" homo.; def: "sit**E** in Iowa" 7. double definition; tur**N**key 8. chimer + a(lcoholic); def: "just a dr**E**am" 9. "avoids a lot" anag.; wp - **R** 10. "tarts belch" anag.; wp - **E** 12. Ag + round; a**G**round 17. Co. + at + "last" anag. containing l; c**O**attails 18. (ew)e + runt rev.; wp - **E** 20. fuchsi**A** IN B**O**wer; wp - **R** 23. eu(ropeans) + rat; wp - **S** 24. flu + "rest" anag.; **F**luster 27. Pa**R**kAn**I**m**A**l; def: "a tow**N** in Africa" 28. double def; **F**lower 30. LA + ne(-wspapers); def: "**S**printer's division"

1	U	2	N	D	3	E	4	R	C	5	O	6	A	7	T	S	8	C	9	V
10	S	I	M	P	E	R	S	11	M	U	C	H	A							
	T	X	12	A	C	13	M	E	T	E	R	S	I	S						
14	R	E	R	O	O	F	15	E	S	K	I	M	O							
	E	S	O	T	R	16	F	A	17	C	E	18	T	E	D					
19	20	R	U	I	S	M	21	L	A	Y	E	R	I							
	C	22	A	N	23	S	E	24	L	25	A	T	O	N	A	L				
26	H	I	D	E	O	U	S	T	27	P	U	28	L	A						
29	A	N	N	U	30	L	S	31	C	A	R	R	O	T						
	B	32	B	E	R	A	T	E	I	A	E	W	O							
33	L	O	G	A	N	E	34	S	L	I	C	E	R							
	E	W	35	P	T	E	R	O	S	A	U	R	S							