RING TOSS

By MARK HALPIN

Clues for this puzzle are given as Rows and Rings. Row answers are to be entered across the grid in the order given. Ring answers, which are not clued in order, are each eight letters long and are to be entered in a ring of squares around one of the circles. Ring answers may begin in any position within the ring and may run either clockwise or counterclockwise. For each ring tossed into the grid, note the letter it surrounds. Read in clue order, these "ring letters" describe your current activity.

ROWS

1 • Cork's place

• They might be girded

2 • Belong (2 wds.)

• Native of Kabul

3 • Bash

• Performing a Thanksgiving chore

4 • Blue jeans or many overalls

• Shrewd

5 • "__ Waldo?"

• Schlockmeister subject of a 1994 biopic (2 wds.)

6 • Married

• Not as well done

7 • Activity for ones with no class?

• Uncle Joe

8 • Jam or pickle

• Jump over, as in a children's game

9 • One way to order food (3 wds.)

• Saturated __

10 • Snaillike

• Howard known as WKRP's Johnny Fever

11 • Nike's swoosh and others

• Get in trouble with a loan shark

12 • Peter of "Casablanca"

• Brief look

RINGS

___ Some nautical distances (2 wds.)

___ Especially bad place to play with matches

___ Stars, bars, oak leaves, etc.

___ Like an Austin-to-Tallahassee journey

___ Tightrope walker, e.g.

___ Triteness

___ Maintain one's position under duress (2 wds.)

___ Literally, "sparkling," sweet Italian wine

___ Cousin of a myna bird

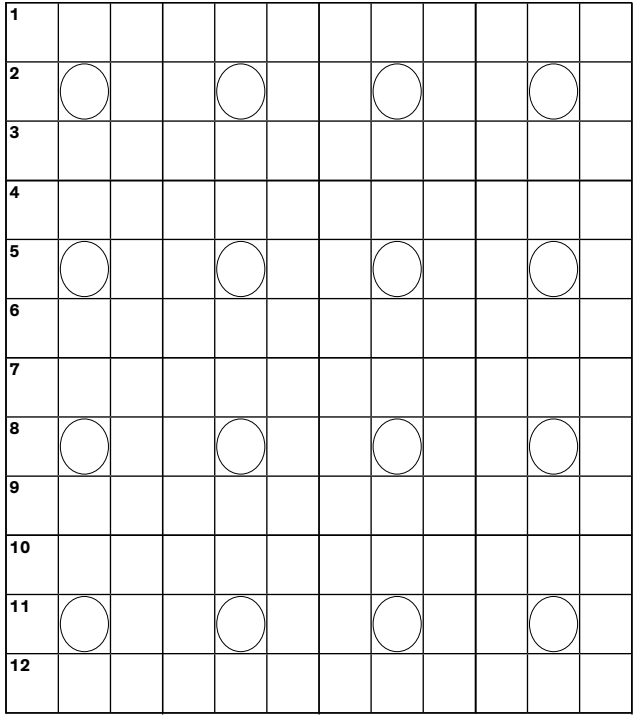
___ Sent a different way

___ Prom dress fabrics

___ Used bleach on

___ Exchanges favors, votes or endorsements

___ Touched with affection

___ Sullies

___ Property divider, often