

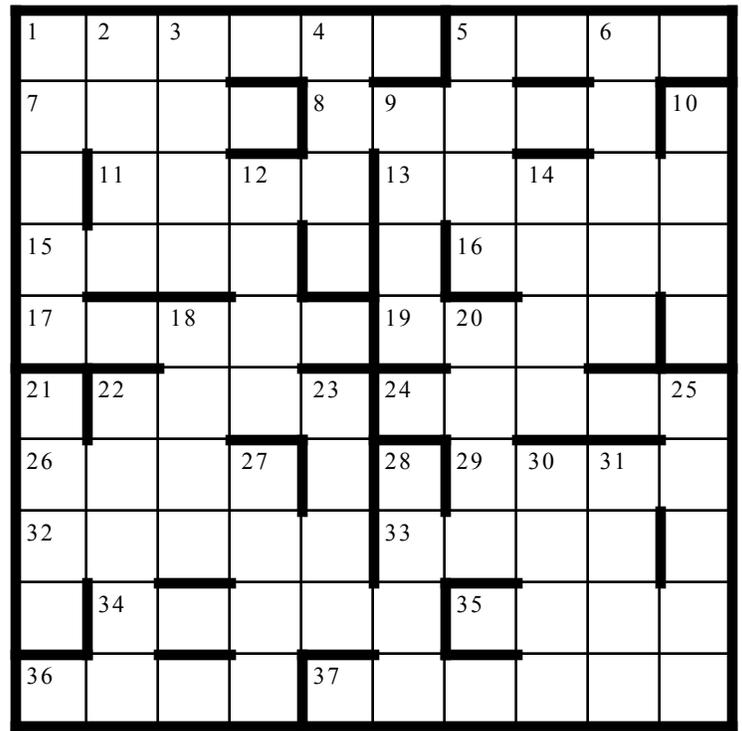
# Forensics & 7 & 7 by Ucaimhu

Welcome to the first 2012 Presidential Debate! In this puzzle, 14 grid squares will be overfilled in one of two ways, corresponding in a certain manner to the two candidates. There are 14 Across clues and 14 Down clues whose entries intersect an overfilled square; in each one, where the overfilled square is *m*th from the start and *n*th from the end of the entry, take the *m*th letter from the start and *n*th letter from the end of the *clue*. Then:

(1) If you read those pairs of letters for the Across clues in clue order, you will find out what each candidate most likely plans to do at least once during the debate.

(2) If you read the *m*th-from-start letters of the Down clues in clue order, you will see two (slangily-expressed) items now strongly associated with the candidates (in the order indicated by the *n*th-from-end letters), as a result of which the overfilled squares are now out of date.

Finally, pair up all the overfilled squares in the grid so that each pair consists of one square for each candidate, and these two squares “face off” on exact opposite sides or corners of another grid square. These seven “debated over” squares, if read top to bottom, will tell you what — because of (1) *or* (2) — the candidates might now be considered to be.



## ACROSS

1. Ring that guy holds turned pale for no reason (3 *wds.*)
5. Devices that produce flour for fractions of a penny
7. Relinquish — as payment, say — a stopwatch, after you give it a spin
8. Mack must give back said brand of candy wafers
11. Silvered?!
13. Vapor that corrupts Ms. Farrow’s female ancestor
15. Radical that I swing fists towards (2 *wds.*)
16. Crop eaten by one’s over-religious teacher
17. Television psychologist mentioned moor land in bad shape (2 *wds.*, *abbr.*)
19. Recast me, Ian, as a friend for Jean-Luc (2 *wds.*)
22. Ed’s lopped off base part of a candle
24. Drunken hick I’m giving pickled veggies from Korea
26. E.g., ice cap from comically undersized peak
29. Delay nameless Seeker’s opposite number
32. Designer Calvin left wapiti at home
33. Egad — Marvin the actor called Cyrus the pop star
34. In speech, Joseph’s brother is like an ape
35. Met perhaps-penniless nerd drinking liquid (*abbr.*)
36. Flip over body art immediately
37. “Fudge!” is hobo’s response to evildoers (2 *wds.*)

## DOWN

1. One blooming row Josh overheard
2. For example, steer straight up
3. A Eurasian plane with a computer from Commodore
4. A deer using, essentially, a language akin to Romany
5. Notes about calcium silicate minerals like clintonite
6. A sextet in Paloma misses an African watercourse
9. Zola, say, raised citrus fruit with no rind? Yes
10. Upwardly-mobile community in Peru ultimately learnt the language of many an Indian
12. Central moral code of a people never says “no”
14. After imbibing whiskey, Samantha imitated a fish
18. Heap of upsetting, sassy online remarks?
20. Starts to note, in his Italian lecture, how a Roman would say *nada*
21. Behead singer Martin Gross
22. In the period when a card game captivates Pound
23. Anka translated bits of Japanese writing
25. Doctor errs after greeting folks bringing in new blood
27. Lice reduced 50% by German with cap
28. The kind of acid that’s in proteins Naomi formed
30. At first, he occupies a restaurant site in India
31. Observes “error” that is correct