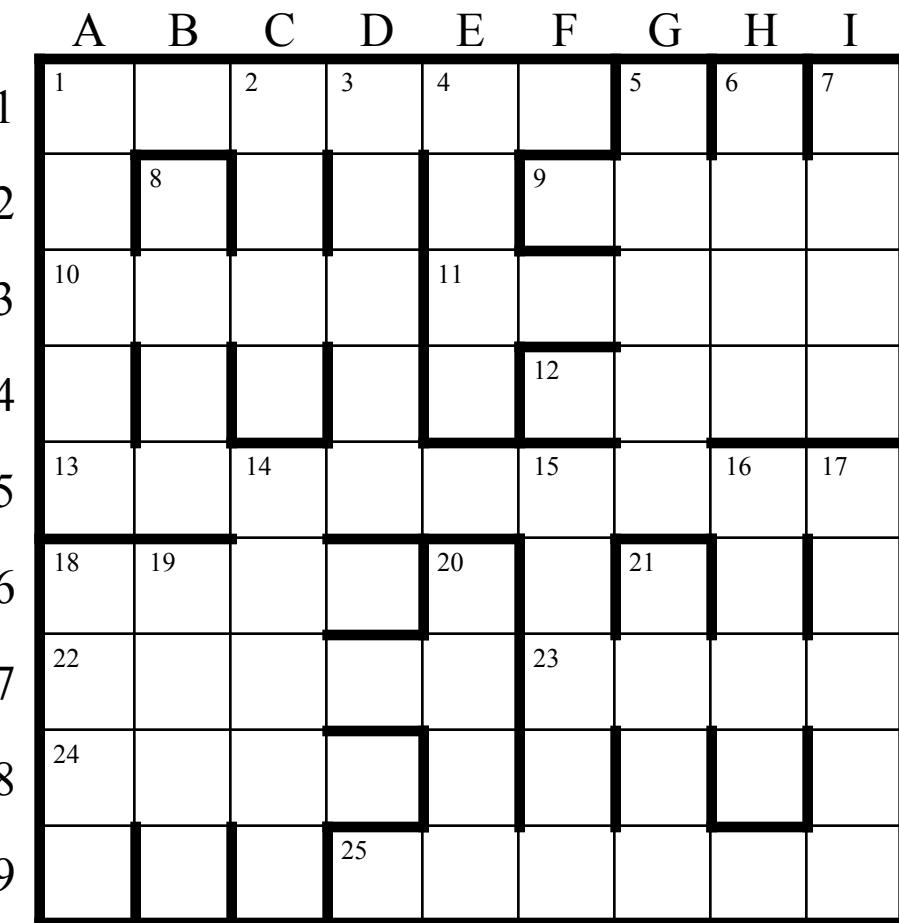


# The Little Marathon Thing

by Ucaoimhu

As befits this marathon, this puzzle has 26-and-a-fraction clues, and the grid incorporates 10 of a certain item. Each clue for an entry intersecting such an item is a double definition, where one definition is for the complete entry and one is for the entry minus the item; one or the other of these definitions will be one word long. For each such clue, shade in the square whose coordinates are the length of the one-word definition and the initial letter of the multi-word definition; when this is done, you will have the missing part of the fractional clue. Then celebrate with the (1 4) item raised in the grid.



## ACROSS

1. Westbound craft contains 1–6 unimportant items (6)
9. Salmon get romantic (4)
10. Milord, I brought back a flower (4)
11. Traveled, carried by waves! (5)
12. High-up place where you'll see astronauts jeer (4)
13. Foolish senator's hugging tennis player Monica (9)
18. One working presently (4)
22. Chick who plays jazz with heart east of Tacoma (5)
23. Nick Nolte, ultimately, is attractive (4)
24. Heed warnings from sensor (4)
25. \_\_\_\_\_ when tipsy (6)

## DOWN

1. Gets narrower cans (5)
2. The author twice copied a number from a clock (4)
3. Ex-soldiers sporting small garments (5)
4. With regard to Erin's dancing (2 2)
5. Mandel childishly described injury (5)
6. Deneuve's way of saying "her gals" (4)
7. Brick-carrier after brick-carrier binges (4)
8. Gaelic poetry does not mention Victor (4)
14. *Dunn, Come Away With Me* singer Jones (5)
15. Obstructed naked philosopher (5)
16. Firm brother of Cain and Abel (4)
17. Eyed Estevez's father (5)
18. Feeling experienced by the sore expert (4)
19. Carol Trotsky is upset (4)
20. Disallow Rob's final witticism (4)
21. Early SF play in which robots take over valley (4)