A Better Future

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Across

- 1. It's as good (?) as a mile, some say (2 wds)
- 6. Sched placeholders, initially
- 10. "Smooth Operator" chanteuse
- 14. Piano part
- 15. Zamboni milieu
- 16. A deadly sin
- 17. Happy song syllables (2 wds)
- 18. Short 500-mile race?
- 19. Miner's quest
- **20.** *Renowned 1963 speech by 54-across (4 wds)
- **23.** How-__ (instruction lists)
- 24. Advertising award
- **25.** Brewer in Milwaukee (but not in MLB)

- 29. Sounds of hesitation
- **30.** Brita competitor
- **32.** "Be Strong Now" James __ from Smashing Pumpkins
- **33.** Hotel option
- 36. Actor Cheadle of "Hotel Rwanda"
- **37.** On an even footing in France
- **38.** *Gospel song often sung by 54-across and his supporters (3 wds)
- 41. NAACP founder Wells and namesakes
- 42. Sound of amazement
- **43.** Repeat verbatim
- **44.** Lower limb
- 45. U.S. version of Ltd.
- 46. Young bear

- 47. "Don't __ on me" [Political slogan]
- 49. Zone or region
- **51.** Diner dessert
- **54.** Social visionary honored on the 3rd Monday of January [First.MI.Last]
- **57.** Assistant
- 60. Lends a hand
- **61.** Brief opening remarks?
- 63. Yemen's capital
- 64. W. African country west of Benin
- **65.** Be in the driver's seat
- **66.** Garage sale notice (2 wds)
- **67.** Cabinet dept. since 1977
- **68.** Gets laundry ready, say

Down

- 1. Fitting
- **2.** Deserve
- 3. State bordering British Columbia
- 4. Casa rooms
- 5. Czech or Pole
- **6.** and tribulations
- 7. Spot for an Indian woman?
- 8. Brezhnev's successor
- **9.** Island in the Hebrides
- **10.** City of the infamous Bloody Sunday at Edmund Pettus Bridge
- **11.** 12 meses
- 12. Movie format after VHS
- **13.** Cyclops had one
- 21. Organizational level
- 22. Loan fig.
- **26.** Intolerant person
- **27.** "Fool me once, on you"
- **28.** Folk story

- **29.** Hagen with 3 Tonys
- 31. Not fair, in a way
- 33. Passover meal
- **34.** Utility bill number
- 35. 3-letter Christian symbol
- **36.** Homer Simpson's interjection
- **37.** Green prefix
- 38. Shrivel up
- **39.** 3x = real estate mantra
- 40. Massage
- 45. FLOTUS McKinley
- **46.** Movie morals arbiter
- **48.** Church conclusions?
- **50.** Mountain crest
- **51.** Spotted horse
- **52.** Lay to rest
- **53.** White heron
- 55. Utility bill number
- **56.** "Sealed with a "
- **57.** Small battery size
- **58.** Some wallet cards
- **59.** Agnes (Lamb of God)
- **62.** Surgeons' spots, briefly