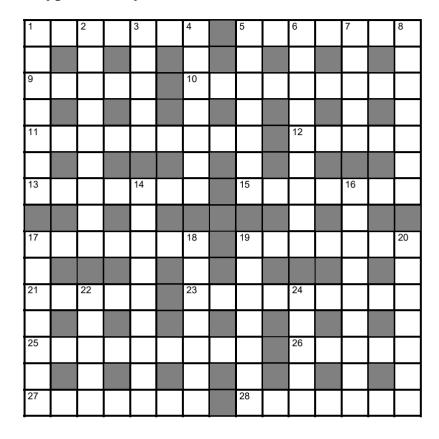
Cryptic 039 by Leucine

Across

- 1 American tightened up as Charlie edged forward. (7)
- 5 Deletes last letter for patrols in crosswordland. (7)
- 9 Brass off topless PA. (5)
- 10 Front-runner at heart? (9)
- 11 Sluggishness in French city chasing buck. (9)
- 12 Speak about Duckworth-Lewis with regret. (5)
- 13 Lethal-sounding transportation for 1 down. (7)
- 15 Sent up when coddled without nitrogen. (7)
- 17 Barbie leads front three at Emirates to US riches. (7)
- 19 Barberous reduction of ship's company? (4,3)
- 21 Harridan's chilly. (5)
- 23 Criticise the philosophy (the belief) that the universe is God. (9)
- 25 Heard of elf on Paris trains as timekeeper? (9)
- 26 Pancake served in Dublin, Ireland. (5)
- 27 Petty thieves called out as pants. (7)
- 28 Speak ill of physics lab to perceive. (7)



Down

- 1 Stipulations for Arctic-dwelling clan. (7)
- 2 Plainer on messy....or Messi on the ball, perhaps? (9)
- 3 Scorer said to link up with Sikh in game. (5)
- 4 Ditto, huffs and puffs for semiconductor additives. (7)
- 5 Prehistoric wingers missing front five for trisyllabic feet. (7)
- 6 Book about

- discontented Boris and 24's century in Earp's bailiwick. (9)
- 7 Ducked work, disquieted and annoyed. (5)
- 8 Hastened around beam and scattered. (7)
- 14 Organised? Reorganised? Impressive! (9)
- 16 Phoney card easy to get around for lookalike. (9)
- 17 Mud ants crawl around wearer of cor blimey trousers. (7)

- **18** Nosh, sip, relax with soda dispensers. (7)
- 19 After swindle, be inclined to vie for belt. (7)
- 20 Jerry's nemesis with π on plug for barrel. (7)
- 22 Take explicit postcard the wrong way for lens. (5)
- 24 Shire folk give it up for Surrey legend. (5)