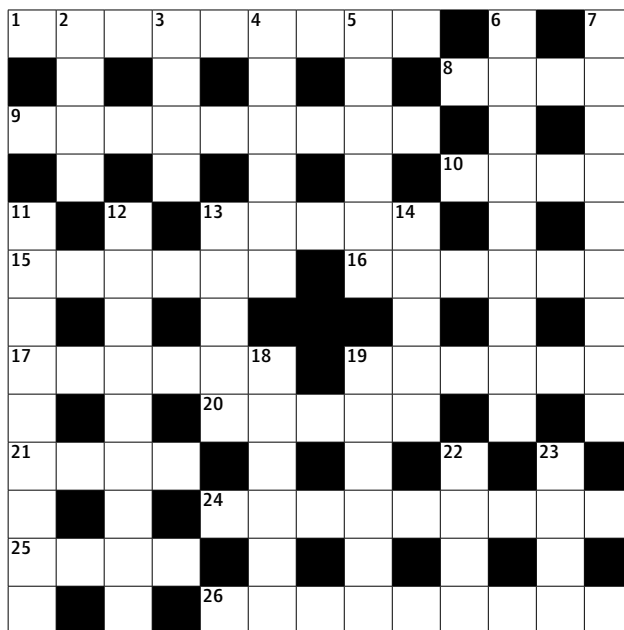


## Quick crossword no 12,427



### Across

- 1 Someone who directs clandestine intelligence activities (9)  
 8 Spin with a humming sound (4)  
 9 Route (9)  
 10 Mixture of fat and flour used for thickening sauces (4)  
 13 Pay out (5)  
 15 Deep sleeplike state (6)  
 16 Bumper car (6)  
 17 Innumerable (6)  
 19 Hair-splitter (6)  
 20 Lustrous globule prized as a gem (5)  
 21 Fortune (4)  
 24 Duvet slid (anag) – strong miniature whirlwind (4,5)  
 25 Average (4)  
 26 Broke (9)

13 Waste (5)

14 Peg used for fastening two adjacent parts of a structure (5)

18 Flood (6)

19 Elementary particle found in all atomic nuclei (6)

22 Shout loudly (4)

23 Nervous twitching in a golfer (4)

### Down

- 2 White inner skin of an orange (4)  
 3 Plant – in perfect condition (4)  
 4 Chevron on a uniform (6)  
 5 Short trip to do a job (6)  
 6 Straight close-fitting dress worn by Chinese women (9)  
 7 Closeness (9)  
 11 Pick-me-up (9)  
 12 Constellation known as The Goat (9)

### Solution no 12,426

U	P	T	O	T	H	E	M	I	N	U	T	E
M	I	R	N	N	N	X						
B	A	P	A	D	D	I	C	T	I	V	E	
R	T	N	I	A	N	M						
A	D	H	E	S	I	V	E	S	T	O	P	
			E	F	E	C	E	T				
H	O	B	B	I	T	C	A	N	N	E	S	
U	A	X	C	U	T							
M	A	L	T	T	O	U	C	H	I	N	G	
E	A	C	C	A	O	U						
R	A	N	C	O	R	O	U	S	N	I	L	
U	C	A	O	U	A	E						
S	M	E	L	L	I	N	G	S	A	L	T	S