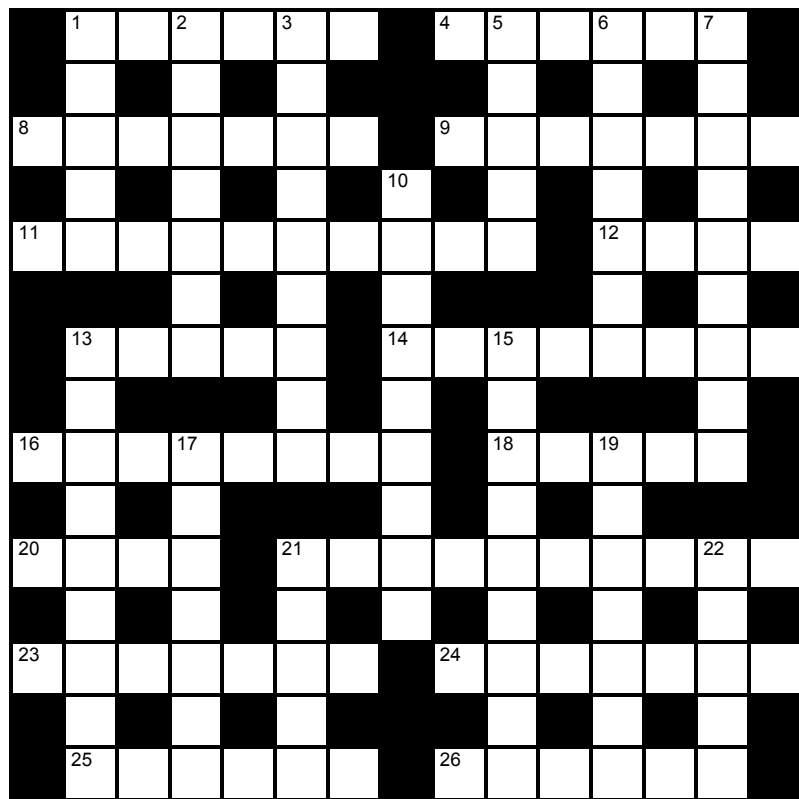


Rugby World Cup 2011 by Rupert
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Only one of the tri nations and six nations teams is included. Of the other teams, all but two are included in the grid, and one of the missing two is referenced in 23 and 24 across.



Across

- 1 Seek comfort in broadcast of second act (4,2)
- 4 RWC team is back in USA after first round (6)
- 8 Man engaged in bestiality(!) focuses on faraway object (5,2)
- 9 No end of good: half real / not real (7)
- 11 Disorder now consumes New York; on the outskirts an Australian city has 0.01lb of purchase (10)
- 12 Grain is principal crop in backward part of Ireland (4)
- 13 RWC team essentially without victory or loss (5)
- 14 Misery swirls around Springbok representative (8)
- 16 Oil container for Dad, pottering about without energy (5,3)
- 18 RWC team showing spirit on game day (5)
- 20 RWC team contingent comes back to regular prison (4)
- 21 Right some problem in alignment of gearbox (6-4)
- 23 RWC country is part of missing RWC country (7)
- 24 Part of missing RWC country (7)
- 25 Steers Australian ex-PM to hospital (6)

- 26 RWC team puts commercial in place of Christian wedding (6)

Down

- 1 Otherwise inept, returning cliché (5)
- 2 Measure of success gets island a RWC team (7)
- 3 Placed top-down is why a jumble is inside?! (4,3,2)
- 5 Though he was humble, we hear his family had heaps! (5)
- 6 Stitches us up with outrageously true point (7)
- 7 Compiler's gold vehicle is stuff of song (9)
- 10 Playing great in an RWC team (9)
- 13 Disney employee brought gifts after I versified? Not once! (9)
- 15 Confusion at airline, among other things (5,4)
- 17 Idol ran amok with bullrush (7)
- 19 RWC team handle leg bone without alternating feet (7)
- 21 Malice puts hole in user's heart (5)
- 22 RWC team finally signs up a German grandmother (5)