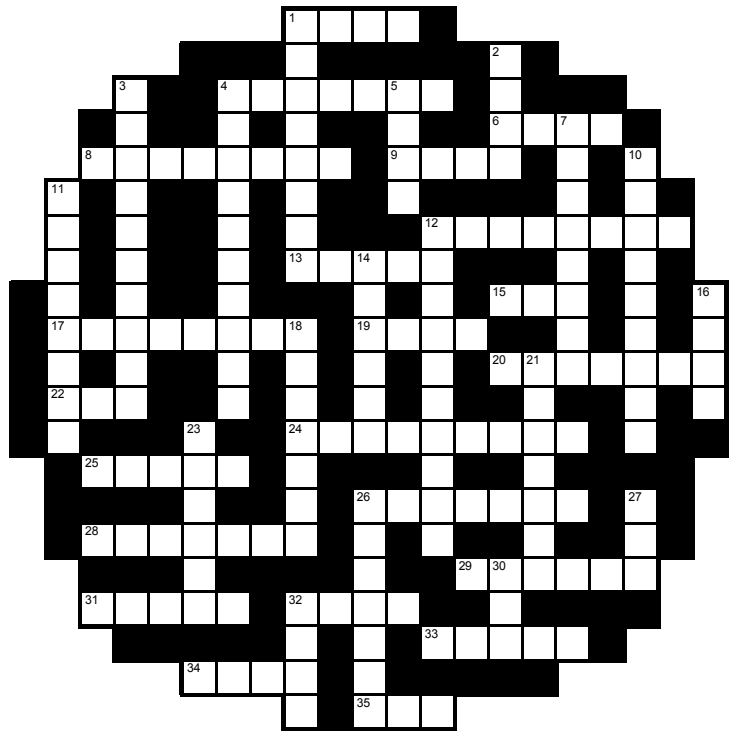


Across

- 1** __ Ballesteros; famous Spanish sportsman who died in 2011 (4)
4 London guild that opened the first bowling green (7)
6 Pete __; the most famous baseball player of modern times (4)
8 Teacher from Illinois who invented a new game (8)
9 Greek gets caught in a tight spot (4)
12 Roman emperor who closed gladiator schools (8)
13 W. G. __; bearded batsman who scores 56,000 runs! (5)
15 Muhammad __; sporting superhero born Cassius Clay (3)
17 Albert __; US sports entrepreneur who re-wrote history (8)
19 Traditionally, matches of this sport are held on the seventh day of the seventh month (4)
20 Sports event first held in the exuberant Italian city-state of Venice (7)
22 __ Rum; a horse who won a grand hat-trick (3)
24 The world's oldest regular horse-race takes place here (9)
25 Animal regularly carried on the shoulders of a great New Zealand rugby player (5)
26 Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip met over a game of __ (7)
28 A new design makes it travel less far (7)
29 The tyrant who turned his back on black (6)
31 At last! Women's ski-jumping will be included at the 2014 Winter Olympics in this Russian resort (5)
32 Björn __; Swede who once had a massive army of teenage female fans (4)



- 33** World champion with a biting average of 2.7 per second (5)
34 A brilliant swimmer who died in a whirlpool (4)
35 This famous football club was founded over a drink in the Rising __ (3)

Down

- 1** Odds are it's a __ *Life* (8)
2 Roman ruler who fiddled (4)
3 Meet Danny, the Californian, who jumped the Great Wall of China on a __ (10)
4 Nag mystics rotated about (10)
5 The place where gladiators first fought (4)
7 Cute name for a new sport based on a Michigan engineer's homemade toy (8)
10 Baron de __; French educationalist who established the modern Olympic movement (9)

- 11** Item of clothing banned by a Roman ruler (8)
12 The __; nickname for an Olympic champion who almost lost his legs in a motorbike crash (10)
14 Jane __; unlikely author of a book that mentions baseball (6)
16 Tennis star Steffi Graf won a unique Golden __ (4)
18 Annual sporting festival once played on the __ Sands (7)
21 Peak fitness is required to mount this one (7)
23 Pierre __ was responsible for the world's worst ever motor-racing disaster (6)
26 First name of a pair of university students who raced on a river (7)
27 Until 1963, all players were called __ by their team-mates (3)
30 Acronym for the body that runs the Olympics (1,1,1)
32 Unlikely first name for the man who was one of baseball's greatest (4)