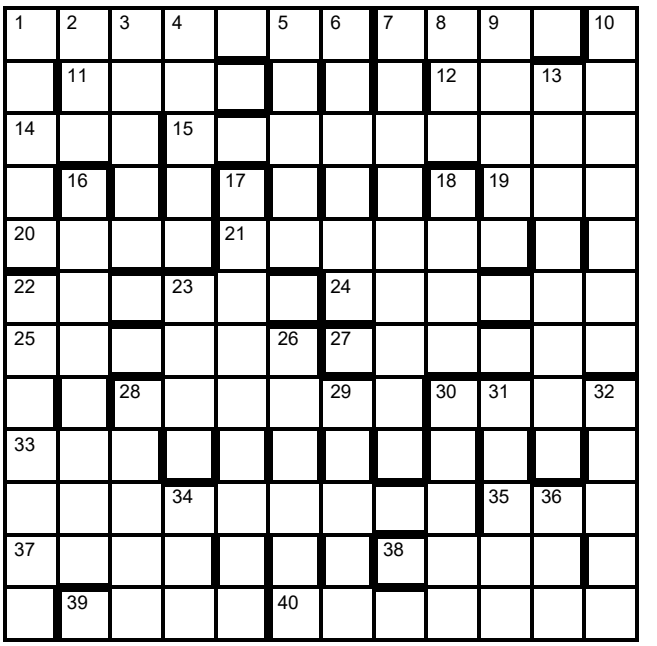
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DOING THEIR OWN THING

Eight grid entries express themselves.

This puzzle was inspired by a cryptic I solved maybe 30 years ago, possibly in Tough Cryptics, perhaps constructed by Trip Payne; the concept strikes me as quite Trip-ish.



Across

1 Major firm like Comcast attacked and lost

7 Sheltered spot for a boat or short sub

11 Nonfiction genre I sob about

12 Hoops superstar Dwyane is considered outspoken

14 Lass with endless audacity

15 Goofed up in English class or goofed up in Professor Flitwick's class?

19 Letters identifying an American Navy ship written in Russian

20 Small pale white aquatic bird

21 Greenhorn recognized a stinging insect by the sound

22 Credit-scoring agency covers ass, mostly, for a complete failure

24 Was an incessant fault-finder caught, losing face?

25 Popular piece of kitsch: retro cream container for an old desk

27 I have to accept the end of life after great sorrow

28 War-mad admiral controlling a naval group

30 Struggle with work survey

33 The second person said to be a sheep

35 <2 clues>: Slash aid long distributed around western Africa; Enjoy a sarcastic remark

37 Eve's third child left with Seth's child

38 Hendrix's #1 song for a counterculture musical

39 Express hatred of gratuities the wrong way

40 Deals she crafted without leadership

Down

1 Advocates of political cleansings dumping President

2 Sports league awash in greenbacks

3 A means to generate movement is essential to reconciliation

4 Mortgage overwhelms male lead in *Death of a Salesman*

5 Talking cow lies about the origin of Edam

6 Repudiate pignapping racket

7 Giant rodents in ceiling at health club block one entrance of sauna

8 Essentially broke, we have debts

9 The world stockpiles uranium for utility

10 Along with checking the source of distress, the doctor might examine a patient here

13 Honored claims Justices ultimately overruled

16 Victory follows batter's third double

17 In an academic setting, I start to look into a variant of impotence

18 Two soldiers making a film that won 9 Oscars

22 First responders refine maneuvers, saving a bit of money

23 Nimble secret agent traps Goldfinger at the end

26 Mexican food at meal breaks

28 Present a rising writer of fables

29 A hot dog erected a summer house

30 Author Gore's pitching Advil

31 One-night pass for a type of movie

32 Comic's receiving excellent pay

34 Paranormal ability in 10% of population is elevated

36 Their system withholds!