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HOLLYWOOD ADAPTATION by LeXman

I asked a Hollywood producer for advice on how we can make cryptic crosswords more popular in America. "Easy," he said. "Just add a few action sequences." He also suggested the unclued bit of stunt casting at 14 Across.

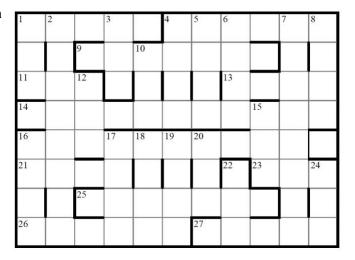
In my next cryptic crossword, my part will be played by One Direction's Harry Styles.

ACROSS

- 1. Loaf around: Rex is a drip
- 4. New Webber-Rice musical about a hometown boy
- 9. Playing bags, Dee notices
- 11. Nearly always just after sunset
- 13. A group of laborers moving out west for a piece of land
- 14. See instructions
- 16. In heartless espionage organization, replacing the Premier of Egypt is pivotal
- 21. Rector finishes early with a famous group of Swedes
- 23. I will poorly
- 25. Working under contract, or port to port
- 26. A proper mouthful: I bleed badly
- 27. Candidate stands by party's revolutionary fringe: a dangerous outgrowth

DOWN

- 1. Next to last place in race it's so long
- 2. Source of paper, once read aloud
- 3. Disturbance at a party



- 4. Then coordinate dividing profits
- 5. Foremost among cheddar cheeses
- 6. Primarily to save a way to get up the mountain
- 7. Associate with everybody by party's conclusion
- 8. Looks through the yeshiva
- 10. Very close to drum
- 12. Jane Austen offers a weak solution
- 15. Round 1: taking on black belt
- 16. Surrender to cold and hail
- 17. Car with bad fuel injector component
- 18. Hero's vow to lady
- 19. At 5:00. I have French toast
- 20. You mentioned Mom at the farm
- 22. Buddy is injured, lacking knowledge
- 24. Once around, but it's gone when you stand up