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Across

- 1** “Dunks did it!” Controversial \$1.3 million cultural purchase of Whitlam era lambasted by conservative Australian press as evidence of financial ineptitude and out-of-touch elitism of Labor party (4, 5)
- 8** Marseille-born Algerian-German bad boy of French rap (*JVLIVS* etc.)
- 9** American Nazi Party *or Absolut Null Punkt* (initials)
- 10** Imitation leather made from fabric coated with rubber or vinyl resin invented in 1936 in Naugatuck, Connecticut
- 12** Ermias Asghedom (initials)
- 13** Orange can (initials)
- 14** Formal addition to constitution amplifying rights, beliefs and values of nation such as free speech, the right to own and bear arms, prohibition of alcohol etc. (repealed)
- 17** Soviet-era Russian space station
- 18** Enthusiastic party goer (see 1 across)
- 19** Inge King *or* Illya Kuryakin *or* Ilse Koch (initials)
- 20** Celebrated German director (*Die 1000 Augen des Dr. Mabuse*, *Metropolis*, *M* etc.)
- 21** Mountain in Jordan from which Moses was permitted to view the promised land though forbidden by Yahweh to enter as punishment for kerfuffle at Kadesh rock
- 23** McMahon, Norton, Sullivan, Wood, Mister
- 25** Wednesday (4, 3)

Down

- 1** Hundred-dollar bills in street parlance of outspoken Somali-American congresswoman Ilhan Omar and Puff Daddy
- 2** One who practices sin of lending money at interest (consigned by Dante to bottommost circle of Hell below murderers, blasphemers, suicides and sodomites)
- 3** Test for regularity of heartbeat with electrodes on wires
- 4** “Some velvet morning when I’m straight...” Character from obscure Greek myth about uncontrollable lust (for stepson Hippolyte) invoked in eerie 1967 classic by Nancy Sinatra and the Psychedelic Cowboy
- 5** Pertaining to ordinary people without elevated office or especial expertise or knowledge
- 6** Oxycodone-based painkiller known as the new Panadol at centre of modern epidemic of opioid addiction
- 7** Global crime organization (*SPecial Executive for Counter-intelligence, Terrorism, Revenge and Extortion*) (run by Ernst Stavro Blofeld)
- 11** Wicked vizier hanged with his sons on own gallows for foiled plot to kill Jews of Persia (recounted in Megillah at Purim)
- 15** Tyson, Love, Nesmith, Pence, Parr
- 16** Subjected to assault as a political protest or act of random violence by hoon
- 20** Richards, Reed, Costello, Loomis
- 22** Big house (initials)
- 24** Degenerate art (initials)