

It's Not All About Athletics

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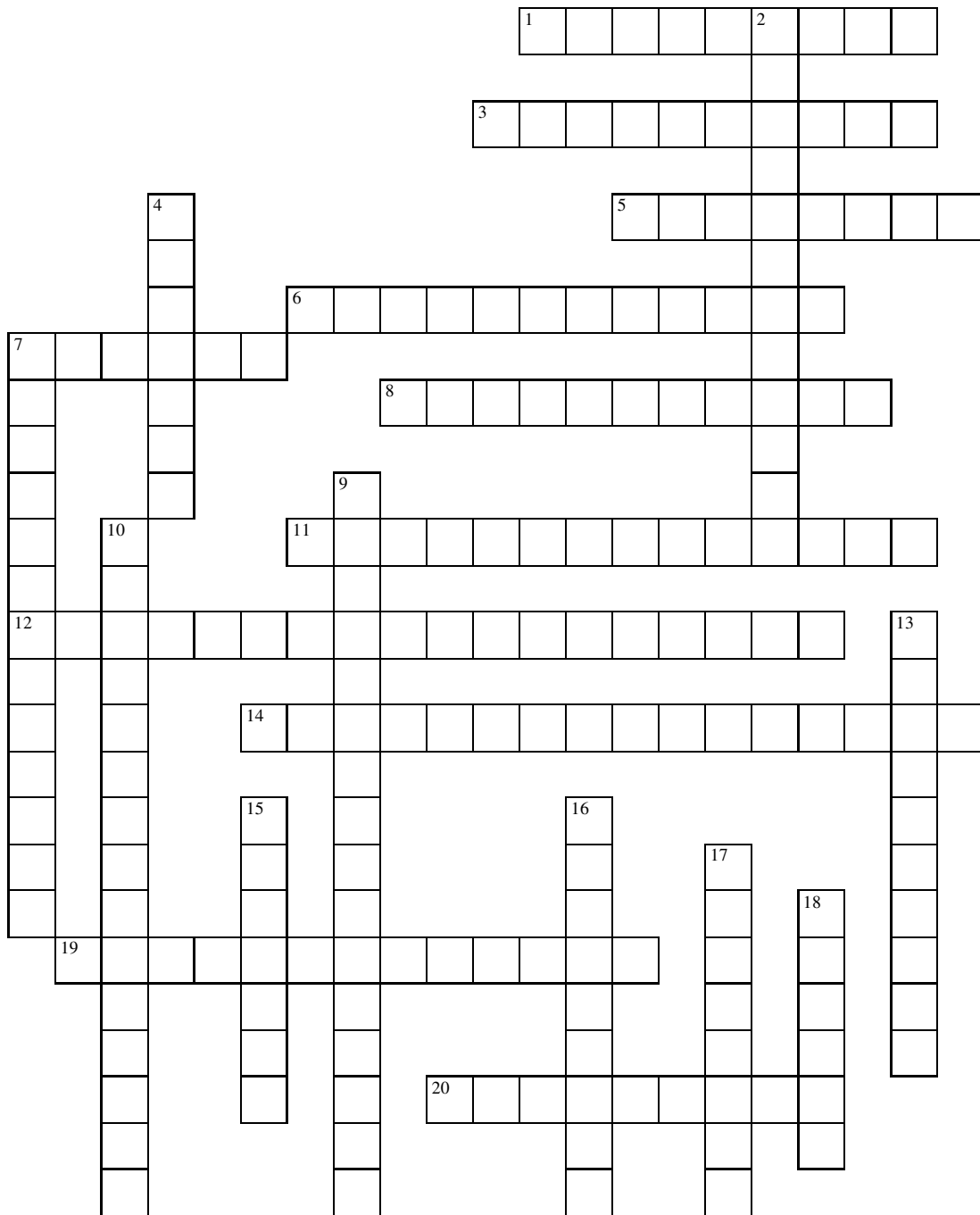
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June 1, 2007 – Personal opinion – I'm not impressed with school board members and administrators who put forth the impression that education is all about athletics. But then I graduated from the University of Oklahoma and only went to two football games even though I had free tickets. I was in class with several of the jocks. They couldn't participate in class discussion but always made above 90 on the exams. Hmm.

Physical fitness for all students is great, but the average students get little physical training in our current system. Instead, competitive sports are king. (Make that football.)

Just to add my little two cents worth, I came up with this crossword puzzle to highlight important contributions to mankind by folks other than athletes. The answers are fairly easy for well-rounded and well-read people.

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ACROSS

- 1 Opera star in the 1850s
- 3 Polish-French chemist who pioneered the field of radioactivity
- 5 1921 Nobel Prize in physics, developed theory of relativity
- 6 Anthropologist who studied primitive tribes, died 1978

DOWN

- 2 French chemist who invented pasteurization and developed a vaccine for rabies
- 4 Did first artificial heart transplant, 1963
- 7 Sculptor who painted Sistine chapel, designed dome of St.Peter's basilica
- 9 Author of Gone with the Wind
- 10 Author of Little Women

- 7** Composer whose music has been found to facilitate learning
 - 8** Founder of Red Cross
 - 11** Two scientists who discovered the structure of DNA. Hint _____ and _____
 - 12** Children's author and storyteller of the prairie
 - 14** Civil rights leader
 - 19** Underground RR conductor for slaves fleeing the South
 - 20** Refused to give up her seat on the bus
 - 13** "The Texan who conquered Russia", won first International Tchaikovsky piano competition in Moscow, received 8 minute standing ovation
 - 15** Described gravity, made the first telescope to study the skies, and discovered Jupiter's moons, 1609
 - 16** Developed vaccine against Polio, 1955, and refused to patent it
 - 17** Current documentary film maker
 - 18** Italian opera singer and one of the most famous tenors in history
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