Loplop Cryptic #015 [15x]

By George Ho

1 I	M	2 P	R	3 O	V	4 E	■	5 T	H	6 E	S	7 E	U	8 S
N	■	O	■	B	■	E	■	R	■	F	■	N	■	I
9 T	A	R	H	E	E	L	■	10 E	F	F	U	S	E	D
H	■	T	■	D	■	S	■	S	■	E	■	N	■	L
11 E	L	I	X	I	R	■	12 S	P	A	C	E	A	G	E
K	■	O	■	E	■	13 R	■	A	■	T	■	R	■	■
14 N	O	N	O	N	S	E	N	S	E	■	15 B	E	E	16 F
O	■	■	■	T	■	C	■	S	■	17 L	■	■	■	O
18 W	H	19 E	Y	■	20 W	I	N	E	C	E	L	21 L	A	R
■	■	R	■	22 A	■	P	■	D	■	M	■	A	■	T
23 S	P	I	T	F	I	R	E	■	24 W	O	N	T	O	N
E	■	N	■	G	■	O	■	25 S	■	N	■	T	■	I
26 P	S	Y	C	H	I	C	■	27 L	O	A	F	I	N	G
I	■	E	■	A	■	A	■	A	■	D	■	C	■	H
28 A	R	S	E	N	A	L	■	29 P	R	E	H	E	A	T

Across

1 Pick up and wander after little rapscallion (7) `IMPROVE. IMP + ROVE`

5 Legendary hero of these United States (7) `THESEUS. THESE + US`

9 North Carolinian leatherworking? (3,4) `TAR HEEL. (LEATHER)*`

10 Gushed very loudly (hardly new!) after the finale (7) `EFFUSED. E + FF + USED`

11 Around 59, senior regularly gets medicinal brew (6) `ELIXIR. LIX inserted in sEnIoR`

12 Picking up pace is wise for our time? (5,3) `SPACE AGE. S(PACE)AGE`

14 Sculpt nose as much as you need - nothing fancy (2-8) `NO-NONSENSE. NOSE letter bank`

15 Bachelor sending back fine sirloin, say (4) `BEEF. B + (FEE)<`

18 Dairy product from that guy in Wyoming (4) `WHEY. W(HE)Y`

20 Carp vendor in discussions for a climate controlled room (4,6) `WINE CELLAR. "whine seller"`

23 Quick-tempered person to drop some bars (8) `SPITFIRE. Double definition`

24 Dumpling flipped sometime later (6) `WONTON. (NOT NOW)<`

26 Medium chunk of limpsy chicken (7) `PSYCHIC. liPSY CHICken`

27 Not working and making bread? (7) `LOAFING. Double definition`

28 Streetcar's last two paths head back from depot (7) `ARSENAL. [streetc]AR + (LANES)<`

29 Warm peat being dug into by that woman in retirement (7) `PREHEAT. PEAT containing (HER)<`

Down

1 Aware immediately following kitchen disaster cutting slice of chorizo (2,3,4) `IN THE KNOW. (KIT[c]HEN)* + NOW`

2 Part of Spooner's seaside wordplay (7) `PORTION. "shore" ≒ "pun"`

3 Love a place for sex that is naughtiest on vacation with submissive (8) `OBEDIENT. O + BED + IE + N[aughties]T`

4 Fishes' endless slumber, upside down (4) `EELS. (SLEE[p])<`

5 Offended, worried, losing head... needing to slide in hot tub (10) `TRESPASSED. [s]TRESSED containing SPA`

6 Curse euphemistically at beginners for English cricket team's result (6) `EFFECT. EFF + E[nglish] C[ricket] T[eam]`

7 Bolted the wrong way, into sensei's extremely deficient trap (7) `ENSNARE. (RAN)< inserted in [s]ENSE[i]`

8 Slide obliquely! (5) `SIDLE. (SLIDE)* (&lit)`

13 Volatile coal price overwhelms leader of representatives on both sides (10) `RECIPROCAL. (COAL PRICE)* containing R[epresentatives]`

16 Torn asunder in battle for almost half a month (9) `FORTNIGHT. (TORN)* inserted in FIGHT`

17 Article featured in worldly French newspaper is something to make a stand for? (8) `LEMONADE. LEMON(A)DE`

19 After an expression of hesitation, in agreement with furious women? (7) `ERINYES. ER + IN + YES`

21 Top story interrupted the middle of bulletin from network (7) `LATTICE. ATTIC inserted in [bul]LE[tin]`

22 Originally, George Ho bored a groupie with knitting project (6) `AFGHAN. G[eorge] H[o] inserted in A FAN`

23 Cuttlefish ink (a couple of pigments) found in ocean (5) `SEPIA. SE(PI[gments])A`

25 Buddies heading upstairs for bash (4) `SLAP. (PALS)<`