

Let the Games Begin Pete Muller

ACROSS

1. Word that keeps its meaning if you replace its first letter with a "T"
5. Songstress Laine who's the only female with Grammy nominations in pop, jazz, and classical music
9. Cobblestone's cousin
13. California rock band named for a Baum character
14. Song from "Oliver!" evoking a brass band
16. * 1974 Jackson 5 hit
18. Objects in many still lifes
19. Island birthplace of Mars
20. Bourbon in New Orleans and Houston in NYC, say
21. * 1971 Doors hit that was the answer to the third-ever MMMM (in 2012)
23. Former Decemberists violinist Haden who shares a name with a city in Jordan
25. Nissan brand since 1982
28. John Adams or his son John Quincy Adams, vis-à-vis Harvard
29. Tunes in 6/8, maybe
32. * 2006 Kenny Chesney hit with the line "It's hard lovin' a man that's got a gypsy soul"
34. "___ Midnight" (Eric Clapton tune)
36. Feast
37. Location of the last event overseen by the 41-Across
38. * 2008 Matisyahu hit
41. Org. that assigns many three-letter codes
44. Oscar Peterson album whose name sounds like a Danish toast
45. ___ Belle dolls (punnily named Marie Osmond collection)
47. * 2008 Rihanna hit
52. "___ Never Sleeps" (Neil Young classic) (***)
53. Like most competitive crossword solvers
54. Mosquito-borne fever
56. Tease
58. * 1976 Rose Royce hit that was also a hit for Christina Aguilera and Missy Elliott
62. Lao-___
63. "Give ___ Me" (Evanescence song)
66. Kate mate on '80s TV
67. * 2005 James Blunt hit
70. Without coverage
71. Streaming set-top box
72. Guitarist Cline of Wilco
73. "Beth" band
74. Gaming console slated to come back in a "mini" version this year, briefly

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©2017 | The meta for this puzzle is a music genre.

2. Conductor with a Japanese music festival named for him
3. Recent hiree's excuse
4. Sport that features a face-off following each goal
5. Sting
6. Access, as a network
7. "Audition (The Fools Who Dream)" singer Stone
8. Fish that becomes a talk show host if you stick an "R" inside it?
9. "Hey - I'm trying to concentrate!"
10. Lengthy letter
11. Connoption
12. "I'll have what she's having"
15. Coffee quantity repeated in the Ink Spots song "Java Jive"
17. "This ___" (cleverly titled Melissa Etheridge album)
22. "___ Way You Want It" (Journey hit)
24. Rooftop extension
26. Two-time Australian prime minister Kevin
27. Supergroup composed of members of King Crimson, ELP, Yes, and the Buggles
29. "___ of Hearts" (Christina Perri song)
30. Song title words before "Laugh," "Knew," or "Fell"
31. "Little" ride in a Ronny & the Daytonas classic
33. ___ Amasova (Russian agent Triple X played by Barbara Bach)
35. Streaming set-top box
39. Digital keyboard whose name is also a direction in several foreign languages
40. Bohemian river
41. Chit
42. Surgery sites, for short
43. "Honky ___" (Elton John song)
44. Battle of the Hedgerows city
46. Chose by chance
47. Tranquilizer source, sometimes
48. Red-hot on the court
49. Herbal stimulant used in aromatherapy
50. Net figures
51. Ottoman official
55. Russian range
57. Pencil pieces
59. Lead singer who's less than four feet tall
60. Straining device
61. "The ___ Return" (Pink Floyd antiwar song)
64. Stooge emission?
65. Player Polo?
68. Internet directory provider, for short
69. QB stat

DOWN

1. Iggy Azalea or Taylor Swift, once