

The Stickler Weekly 212 ©David Stickley

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ACROSS

- 1 Outfit entering street is hard and difficult to handle (8)
- 5 Check the slightly diminished growth on skin (6)
- 9 This part of stair is erect (5)
- 10 Meet in court holding brief (9)
- 12 Speed unit in dash gauge changed processing instructions (7,8)
- 13 Write down orderly's tip (4)
- 14 Heavily involved guard checking what's required (4-4)
- 18 Put off collecting tin container of wine (8)
- 20 Star, handling pressure, turned around (4)
- 24 Blob in fat farm eats spread before function actually (2,1,6,2,4)
- 25 Natural soap, perhaps, is lacking in versatility somehow (7,2)
- 26 Animated cartoon missing out on person with role-playing experience (5)
- 27 Drive to border for digging equipment (6)
- 28 Last part of dinner, after a blend of fine wine, is concluded (8)

DOWN

- 1 Leave drained and confused (9)
- 2 Insignificant people in isolated religious groups (7)
- 3 Slow to river, duck toppled over (6)
- 4 Cold feeling admitted by serial killer (6)
- 6 Starter's call, say, accepted by champions (4,4)
- 7 Film star, and tragedy's lead, had something (7)
- 8 Time left in match and championship (5)
- 11 Members of orchestra in secondary schools (6)
- 15 Turned up irritated about car's first flat (9)
- 16 Hidden moon finally eclipsed by Neptune? (8)
- 17 High-ranking group's grand admission (6)
- 19 Heavy lifter's charge should be managed in a restricted enclosure (7)
- 21 Think about black substance occurring on the sole of the foot (7)
- 22 Yellow head of common black bird (6)
- 23 Dwelling with built-in character? (1-5)
- 24 Bitter cold experienced in desert (5)