

ACROSS

- 8 Huge deficit in fuel (8)
 9 Observed ambassador with two journalists (6)
 10 Peaceful protestor had gin cocktail (6)
 11 Unfit football team holds America back (8)
 12 Passionate macho guys kept in check (8)
 13 In which Spain is a cold place, not Sweden (6)
 14 Temporarily confused before hitting me (3,3,4,5)
 18 Data about university's reputation (6)
 20 Calumnies upset not one in US governemnt (5,3)
 23 Bridle put on with force (8)
 24 Develop old city in China (6)
 25 Claim everyone regularly lacking veggies (6)
 26 Son holding down threadmaker's job (8)

DOWN

- 1 Give fellow a note (6)
 2 Timidity of Old Bill appearing in court (4,4)
 3 Pursue snake that's outside castle (6)
 4 Celebrity insults our isles when drunk (15)
 5 One's surrounded by immaculate carpet (8)
 6 Stop working on exhaust (6)
 7 Omission of representatives, ignoring Georgia (8)
 15 Honestly extraordinary in private (2,3,3)
 16 Lass endlessly struggling with seven subjects (8)
 17 Dusk? Time to stop equestrian activity (8)
 19 Agent finally gets number for Bond (6)
 21 Busy road within reach, one keeping to the left (6)
 22 First-class group getting exposure (6)

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