

ACROSS

- 1 Cardini's cold starter (6,5)
- 9 Happen periodically (5)
- 10 Itinerant (7)
- 11 Trust, have faith in (5,2)
- 12 Unsuccessful competitor (5)
- 13 Sign on, join up (6)
- 15 Right on time (6)
- 18 ___ Rouge, city on the Mississippi (5)
- 20 Without furrows (7)
- 22 Tiered (7)
- 23 Spice used in mulled wine (5)
- 24 Addition of improving features (11)

DOWN

- 2 Gradual financial build-up (7)
- 3 Young herring (5)
- 4 Travelling (6)
- 5 Sharp-cornered (7)
- 6 Heap up (5)
- 7 Wicket-keeper's catch (7,4)
- 8 Crowded with celebrities (4-7)
- 14 Spanish wine punch (7)
- 16 Wind bringing torrential rain (7)
- 17 *It's Like That* group (3,3)
- 19 Check (a garment) for size (3,2)
- 21 Substitute, usually for a doctor (5)

