ACROSS
9  Just one Roman poet's written about power (9)
10  Overweight villain in film (5)
11  Short account about Channel Island current (7)
12  Disliked newcomer stumped in superior role (7)
13  Neverending journey made free (3)
14  Columnist is for slamming 1/24 hit (4,2,5)
17  Ancient region lately evacuated, charity recalled (5)
18  Ottoman officer edges away from infidel (3)
19  Impressive flower by river in country (5)
21  Wife early, dancing round before noon for 1/24 hit (2,3,6)
23  Fool starts with absolutely stupid statement (3)
25  A special check for bituminous substance (7)
27  Pressure to cause irritation for yak (7)
28  Ancient Peruvian preserved? (5)
29  Girl embracing boy after the 14 or 21 vis-à-vis 1/24? (5,4)

DOWN
1/24  Nuns on ridge in vocal group (6,6)
2  Spindle wounded daughter, cracking (8)
3  Publicly announce metal group's break-up? (10)
4  Herb swallowed at last by crook (4)
5  Enlightened and elevated, I beat two crossing Scots isle (10)
6  So tense, American seen outside hospital (4)
7  Small girl heading north finds badger (6)
8  Goodness! Saint with sloshed laic becomes obscure (8)
15  Cave deposit no longer fresh — work with it inside (10)
16  One revelling in somewhat tight score, needing runs (10)
17  Wiseacre in LA beginning to talk in vulgar language (3,5)
20  Response from sappers joining battle (8)
22  Animal in mountain pasture a feline lacking tail (6)
24  See 1
26  Good riddance to thin-faced kinswoman? (4)
27  Sunak's written about Old English verse (4)

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