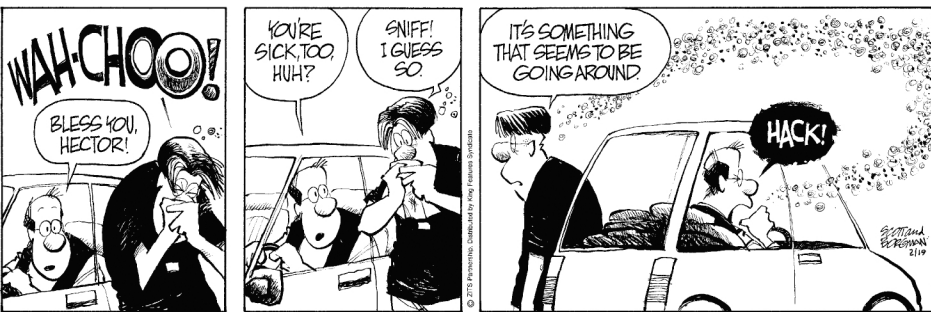


DUMPLINGS BY VICTOR VAN ACKER



ZITS BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



ROYAL STARS

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE FROM GEORGIA NICOLS

The day ahead: ★★★★★ = Dynamic; ★★★★ = Positive; ★★★ = Average; ★★ = So-so; ★ = Difficult

Moon Alert: Avoid shopping (except for food and gas) and important decisions from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. EST today (7 a.m. to 12 noon PST). After that, the Moon moves from **PISCES** into **ARIES**.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★ As this day wears on, it gets better and you become more powerful. Don't be discouraged initially if you feel shot down, criticized or diminished. By the end of the day, you are mighty! Look for ways to make improvements in your immediate surroundings and your appearance. Tonight: You win!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★ Two separate influences are at play today. In one way, this is a popular time for you, and you'll enjoy hanging out with younger, creative people. However, a different influence can make you want to hide and be low-key. It's your call. Tonight: Enjoy privacy.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★ An older friend might create confusion for you today. Perhaps you don't know how to take what they're saying. Fortunately, later in the day, you will be clear about what you want and what you don't want. Furthermore, you will make things happen. Tonight: Be friendly.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★ Tread carefully today because your conversations with bosses, parents and authority figures are subject to confusion. But later in the day, you will speak up. It's also important to know that you're high-viz today, which means people notice you. Tonight: You're admired.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★★ Steer clear of controversial subjects and issues related to politics, religion and racial matters. These could become depressing, as well as confusing. Nevertheless, late in the day, you will feel compelled to speak up and encourage change for the better if you can. Tonight: Explore and learn.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★ If you have the choice, postpone important financial decisions about inheritances, shared property, taxes and debt for another day because today there's an element of confusion, even resentment. When it comes to money, you want to have a clear, calm mind. Tonight: Check your finances.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★ Although this is a wonderful, productive time for you and you can get a lot done, today has a few drawbacks when talking to partners, spouses or close friends because misunderstandings might occur. You might feel criticized. By the end of the day, you will speak your peace. Tonight: Listen and cooperate.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

For Thursday, Feb. 19, 2026:

You are sensitive, individualistic and perceptive. You want to contribute to the greater good. This year it's time to create solid foundations in your life, both externally and internally. Simplicity is key. Take charge of your health. Physical exercise will be important. Stay grounded and levelheaded.

BORN TODAY

Actor Benicio del Toro (1967), actress Millie Bobby Brown (2004), actor Jeff Daniels (1955)

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★★ Mostly, you want to socialize and play today. You also might want to address increased chaos and activity taking place at home so that you can restore order. However, when it comes to your job, your health or even your pet, discussions might be confused, even restrictive. Patience is key. Tonight: Work to get better organized.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★★ Romance is challenging today, along with the arts and anything to do with your kids. You might feel increased restrictions or responsibilities. You also might feel an element of confusion and are not sure what's happening. Therefore, tread carefully. Keep your eyes open. Tonight: Enjoy socializing.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★ Family discussions with parents and older relatives might be discouraging today. They also might be misleading or confusing. This is why by the end of the day you will speak up to clarify things and try to improve the situation. It will all work out. Tonight: Cocoon at home.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★★ Don't fall into the paralysis of negativity by worrying about something today. Admittedly, someone older might be critical or discouraging. You will have your chance to reply, perhaps later today. With fiery Mars in your sign, you're not taking a backseat. Tonight: Interesting conversations.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★★ Financial matters might disappoint you today. Double-check everything because you might not have the correct facts, or you could even be misled by someone. With Mercury and Venus in your sign, you will be diplomatic in how you explore this matter. Tonight: Check your belongings.

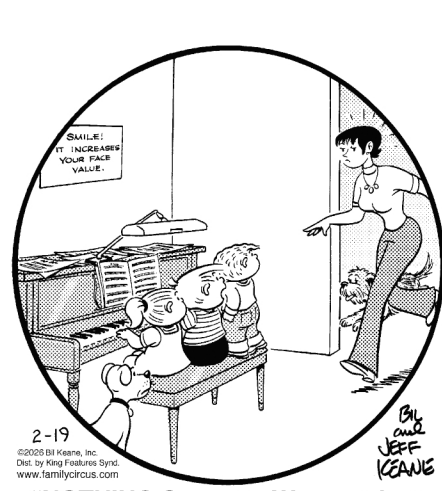
TODAY'S ANSWER

3	2	9	1	7	5	7	8	6
1	6	7	2	9	8	5	3	4
7	5	8	6	7	3	2	9	1
5	8	7	7	2	6	3	1	9
9	1	3	5	8	7	6	7	2
2	7	6	9	3	1	8	7	5
6	3	2	8	1	9	7	5	7
8	9	5	7	6	7	1	2	3
7	7	1	3	5	2	9	6	8

DENNIS THE MENACE



THE FAMILY CIRCUS



NEVER BEEN DEADER BY TOMMY DEVOID



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE BY CHRIS BROWNE



INSANITY STREAK BY TONY LOPES



SUDOKU

8		6		5	3	1		
3	2						6	
								9
			1	3	6			
						3	1	
6			9					5
			3		9		5	4
4		5				7		
	8				1			

Difficulty: ★★★

2/19

SHEFFER CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Taj Mahal city
5 Request
8 Book-keepers (Abbr.)
12 Prof's employer
13 South, in Spanish
14 Conceal
15 Fiesta food
16 JFK Library architect
17 Leak slowly
18 Yam color
20 Tibia's place
22 Noon or 1 p.m., for many
26 Some Oklahoma natives
29 Year in Mexico
30 Before
31 "— Las Vegas"
32 Bikini top
33 Journey
34 White House nick-name

- 35 "The Love-birds" star Issa
36 Bowling-lane button
37 6 or 7 p.m., for many
40 Not worth debating
41 Traveling with a band
45 Wicked
47 "Adorbs!"
49 Sea eagle
50 Chan-teuse Eartha
51 Fluffy scarf
52 "Phooey!"
53 Portal
54 Sean, to Yoko

- 55 Coin aperture
DOWN
1 Saturn, for one
2 Growl
3 Costa —
4 "Anne of Green Gables" setting
5 Colorado ski resort
6 "Glee" character —
7 Hindu deity
8 Gospel group
9 Trail-blazers
10 Wood-shaping tool
11 Behold

- 19 Astronaut Grissom
21 "Succession" ailer
23 Insertion mark
24 Singer India.—
25 Fulfilled, as a promise
26 "Amores" poet
27 Polyne-sian carving
28 Hand pro- tector for a baker
32 Tavern tallies
33 Wobbles
35 Classic car
36 Pres. after LBJ
38 Nick of "Cape Fear"
39 Hawkeye
42 Spoken
43 Golden Rule preposi- tion
44 Take five
45 Heart chart (Abbr.)
46 By way of
48 Romance

Solution time: 24 mins.

	L	E	W		M	S	T	
E	A	T	E	N	A	C	E	R
W	I	N	N	E	R	T	A	K
E	C	O		S	A	L	E	S
			M	A	R	Y		E
	C	A	R	P	E		T	E
B	A	L	I		T	O	P	S
B	C	C	O	P	A	O	R	I
S	T	O	P	A	T	N	O	T
	I	T	A	L	I	A		O
	T	W	I	L	L		M	E
	N	A	T				E	S

Yesterday's answer 2-19

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16				17			
18				19			20	21				
			22			23					24	25
26	27	28				29				30		
31					32				33			
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37			38				39					
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45	46				47	48			49			
50					51				52			
53					54				55			