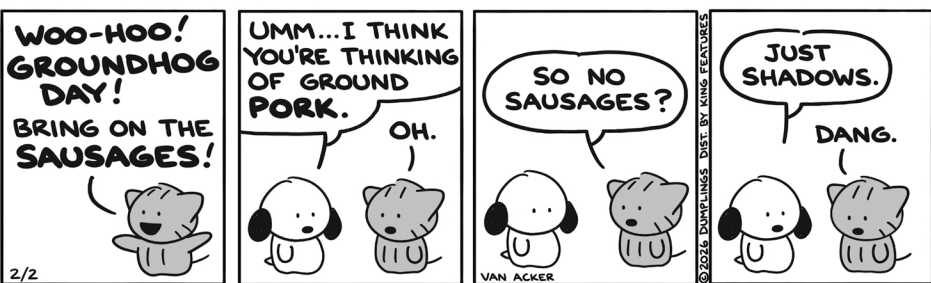




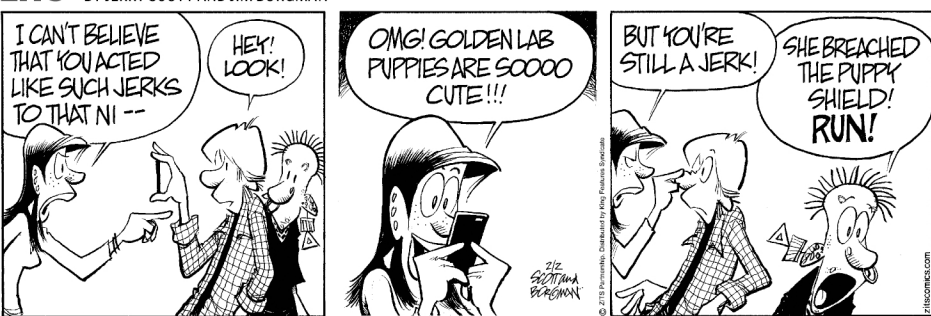
DUMPLINGS

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 or making important decisions from 5:30 p.m. to 10:45 p.m. EST today (2:30 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. PST). After that, the Moon moves from **LEO** into **VIRGO**.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★ Parents need to be patient with their kids today to avoid hissy fits and meltdowns. Frankly, people all around you are quick to be angry and to feel hurt or offended. (It's that kinda day.) Be patient with friends as well as groups. Courage — this is temporary. Tonight: Get organized.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★ Steer clear of confrontations with bosses, parents and authority figures today. Meanwhile, sudden interruptions might change your routine. For example, small appliances might break down, a minor breakage could occur. Tonight: Socialize.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★ Keep your wits about you and pay attention to what you say and do today because this is an accident-prone day for your sign. You might suddenly blurt something out that you later regret. Avoid arguments about politics, religion and touchy subjects. Stay cool. Tonight: Cocoon.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★ Financial disagreements are likely today. In fact, something surprising or unexpected could impact your finances or something you own. Double-check banking accounts and protect what you own against loss, theft or damage. You might have to defend your best interests. Tonight: Conversations.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★ Today the Moon is in your sign; however, it's at odds with three different planets, making you feel nervous and edgy. And, at the same time, you encounter difficult communications with partners, spouses and close friends. Stand tall. Tonight: Check your belongings.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★ Be patient with work colleagues today. Something going on behind the scenes might create a disruption. Misunderstandings about procedures or a work-related romance could be a challenge today. Keep your head down and your powder dry. Tonight: You win!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★ Be patient with your kids today. Likewise, avoid nasty arguments with romantic partners. Challenges with sports events and teammates also might arise, because unexpected situations are likely today (including accidents), plus people are agitated. (Yikes.) Tonight: Enjoy privacy.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★ You're high-viz today, which means people notice you

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

For Monday, Feb. 2, 2026:

You have analytical skills and a desire for perfection. You take command in a disciplined, strategic way. Exciting changes will give you increased personal freedom this year. Seek out new opportunities and be ready to act fast. Expect to travel.

BORN TODAY

Actor Paul Mescal (1996), TV cook, author Ina Garten (1948), singer-songwriter Shakira (1977)

more than usual. In fact, some will know personal details about your private life. (Time for some damage control?) Patience is your best ally today, because difficulties with partners, friends and family members are likely. Tonight: Be friendly.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★ You want to escape and “get away from all this” today. If you can travel, do so; however, be aware that there is an accident-prone influence today, especially related to your job or anything to do with your pet. Avoid arguments for your own benefit. Be mindful of everything that you do. Tonight: You're noticed.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★ Social plans might change or be canceled today. Be vigilant about your kids to avoid accidents. Take care with sports-related activities as well, which are also accident-prone today. Discussions about possessions, money and your finances will be dicey. Hang in there! Tonight: Explore and learn.

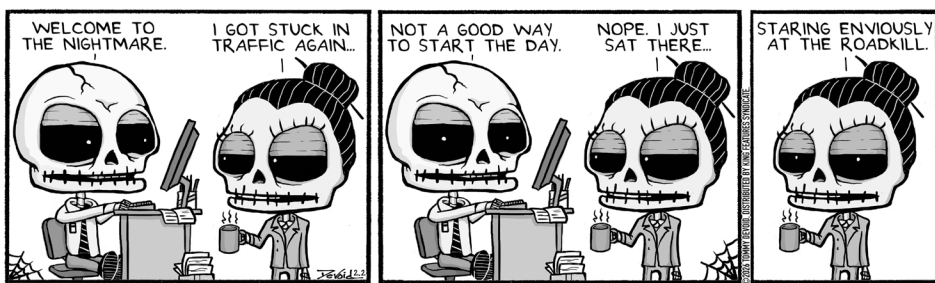
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★ Today the Moon is opposite your sign, opposing both Mercury and Venus in your sign. The Moon is also at odds with Uranus, creating unexpected situations that might take place at home or with a family member. Use your friendly charm to smooth over troubled waters today. Be cooperative and supportive. Tonight: Check your finances.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★ Pay attention to everything you say and do because this is an accident-prone day for your signs. Meanwhile, something going on behind the scenes might create problems for you or cause you to worry. People are not cooperative. It's hard to anticipate what's going to happen next. Tonight: Listen and cooperate.



NEVER BEEN DEADER

BY TOMMY DEVOID



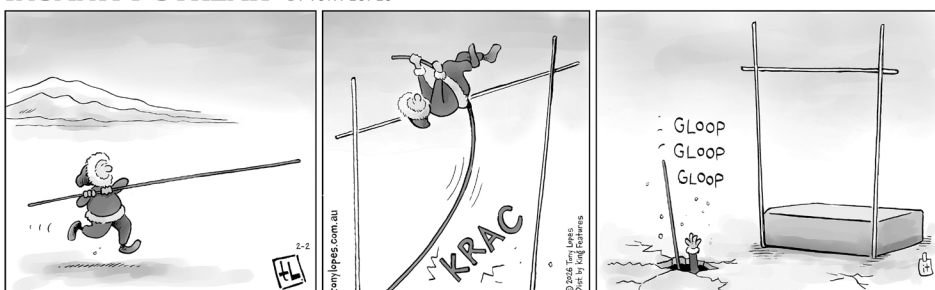
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

BY CHRIS BROWNE



INSANITY STREAK

BY TONY LOPES



SUDOKU

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| 2 | | | | 3 | | | 9 | |
| 4 | | | | | | 2 | | |

Difficulty: ★

2/2

SHEFFER CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Pugilist's punch
4 Gather wool
9 “SNL” network
12 Busy insect
13 Oscar winner Berry
14 Hugs, in a letter
15 “It's all good”
17 Conclusion
18 Stashed
19 Persian king
21 Full chromo-some set
24 Novelist Waugh
25 Japanese veggie
26 Calif. clock setting
28 Praises
31 “Just Do It” company
33 Tic- — -toe
35 Future atty's exam
36 Knightley of “Atonement”

DOWN

- 38 Automa-
ton, for short
40 Chemical suffix
41 Really enjoys
43 Rental contracts
45 Seriously committed
47 Cato's 511
48 — tai (cocktail)
49 Press conference response
54 New England cape
55 “Death, be not proud” poet John
56 Existed
57 Pester
58 Wing

ACROSS

- 59 Needle hole
DOWN
1 Painter Vermeer
2 Year in Madrid
3 “Incidentally,” to texters
4 Seafood order
5 Most difficult
6 Yale grad
7 Amazon's virtual assistant
8 Put on eBay again
9 “Take responsibility!”
10 Dog's treasure

DOWN

- 11 Atlantic catches
16 Discoverer's call
20 Genuine stuff
21 Sticky
22 Actress Falco
23 “I'm serious!”
27 Indent key
29 Hamlet, e.g.
30 Fr. holy women
32 A Great Lake
34 Brewski
37 Order of business
39 South-western cuisine
42 Pudding utensil
44 Goal
45 Mogadi-shu-born super-model
46 “Peter Pan” pooch
50 MSNBC alternative
51 Farm female
52 Aye undoer
53 Mao — -tung

Solution time: 21 mins.

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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| N | E | E | D | | T | A | R | S | | E | S | P |

Saturday's answer 2-2

DENNIS THE MENACE



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

