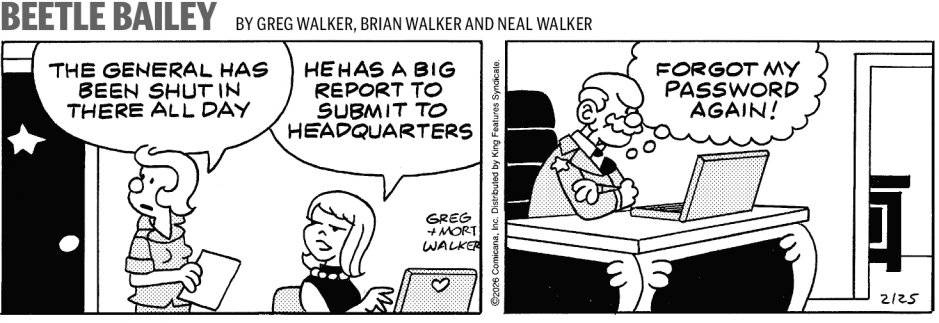
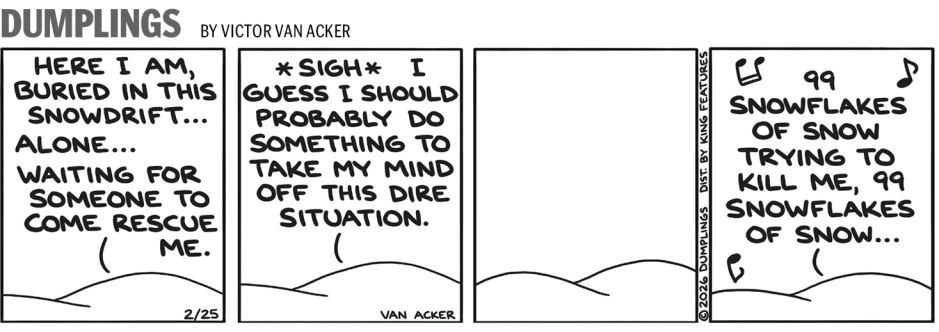
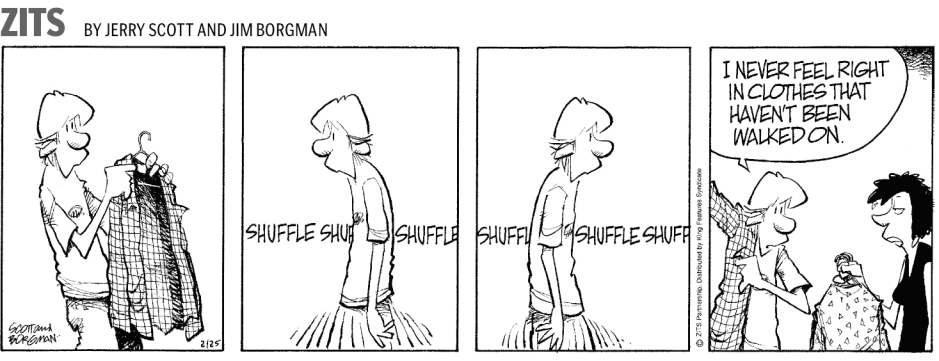
BEETLE BAILEY
BY GREG WALKER, BRIAN WALKER AND NEAL WALKER



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) or major decisions after 5:30 p.m. EST today (2:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. PST). After that, the Moon moves from **GEMINI** into **CANCER**.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★ Today Mercury goes retrograde until March 21, triggering unusual dreams, especially dreams from your past. You might get intuitive flashbacks about things. Secrets that you "hid from yourself" might reemerge. This will be an excellent time for therapy. Tonight: Home and family.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★ In the next month, old friends will resurface in your world in person, online or in your dreams and thoughts. This is because Mercury Retrograde will be taking place in your House of Friendships, reactivating relationships from your past, including groups and organizations. Tonight: Discussions.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★ The next month is interesting because Mercury Retrograde is at the top of your chart, attracting old job offers and contacts with former bosses and past clients. It's the perfect time to reconnect with these people. Guard against miscommunications. Be clear. Tonight: Check your belongings.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★ For the next month, Mercury Retrograde will help you finish school projects, manuscripts and screenplays. You'll be surprised at how easy this will be. It's also a great time to study the past and research history. Unfortunately, travel plans might be delayed or canceled. Tonight: You win!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★ You might become obsessed about something in the next month due to Mercury Retrograde, which begins today. Delays or revisions might be necessary with financial matters — taxes, debts, loans and inheritances. On the upside, it's an excellent time to wrap up details in these same areas. Get stuff done! Tonight: Enjoy privacy.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★ Look your best when you go out. You will encounter ex-partners, ex-spouses and old friends in the next month — in person, online or even in your dreams and your thoughts — because Mercury Retrograde is taking place opposite your sign in your House of Partnerships. Tonight: Be friendly.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★ In the next month, Mercury Retrograde will do two things: It will encourage goofy mistakes, delays and mixed-up communications in your job. However, it will also help you finish work and wrap up whatever is on your plate. You win some; you lose some. Tonight: You're noticed.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

For Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2026:

You have passionate convictions and ideals. You're compassionate and empathetic, especially toward animals. This is a year of new beginnings, adventures and major changes. Keep your eyes open for new opportunities and be ready to take action. Define your goals. Prepare for leadership.

BORN TODAY

Musician George Harrison (1943), actress Tea Leoni (1966), filmmaker, screenwriter Neil Jordan (1950)

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★ Old flames are bound to be back in your world in some fashion in the next month. You might come across them online or in social media. You might meet them in person. They might come up in conversation, dreams or your thoughts. In this same window, you can wrap up creative projects. Tonight: Explore and learn.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★ Stock the fridge, because relatives you haven't seen for a while might be camped in your home at some point in the next month because of Mercury Retrograde. On the upside, it's a great opportunity to finish home projects. (Put them to work.) Tonight: Check your finances.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★ Be mindful of your transportation because Mercury Retrograde will create delays for you in the next month — car problems, delays, missed buses, etc. Likewise, mixed-up communications, missed appointments and increased contacts with siblings are also likely. Courage! Tonight: Cooperate.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★ Keep an eye on your money and possessions because Mercury Retrograde will create confusion in these areas in the next month. Double-check financial transactions. If shopping, keep your receipts (and the box). However, you might reapply for a job where you tried once before. Who knows? Tonight: Get organized.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★ Mercury will be retrograde in your sign for the next month, attracting people from the past back into your world. However, you also might be dogged with silly errors, delays, transportation problems and misplaced items. On the upside, you can finish old business very easily! Tonight: Relax.

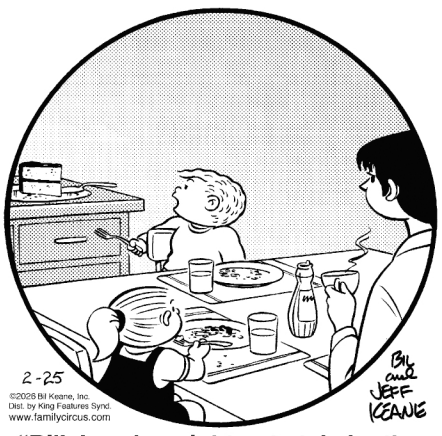
TODAY'S ANSWER

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

DENNIS THE MENACE

"I THINK WE LEFT THE AUTOPILOT ON OUR SLED, JOEY!"

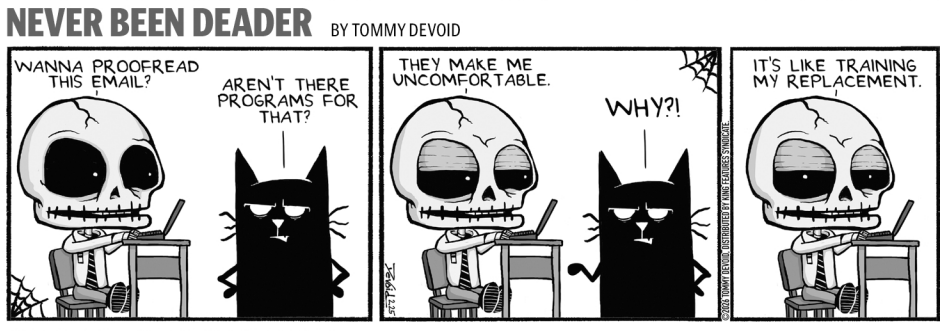
THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Billy's cake might get stale by the time he's well enough to eat it, so can I have it?"

BLONDIE
BY DEAN YOUNG AND JOHN MARSHALL

NEVER BEEN DEADER
BY TOMMY DEVOID



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE
BY CHRIS BROWNE

INSANITY STREAK
BY TONY LOPES

SUDOKU

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

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

Difficulty: ★★★ 2/25

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SHEFFER CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Dog's foot
4 Carton sealer
8 Injure
12 Swiss canton
13 Barak of Israel
14 401(k) relatives
15 52, to Caesar
16 Hanging around
18 Permitted
20 Compass dir.
21 Volcanic flow
24 Spanish "I love you"
28 Famed giant panda
32 Dross
33 Big fuss
34 Eddie Rabbitt's "I — Rainy Night"
36 Televise
37 Legendary loch
39 Pasta variety
41 "CBS Mornings" co-host King
43 Onion's kin
44 Keats creation
46 O. Henry's specialty
50 Language experts
55 Bond rating
56 "Prometheus" actor Idris
57 Monthly payment
58 Actress Basinger
59 Flair
60 Vittles
61 Yearbook gp.

DOWN
1 Influence
2 Singer India.—
3 Kristen of "Bridesmaids"
4 Revealing, like a memoir
5 Sashimi fish
6 Bit of wit
7 Perimeter
8 New staffers
9 "Entourage" role
10 Scooted
11 Flavor enhancer, for short
17 Tolkien creature
19 H.S. math
22 Cello's ancestor
23 Ear bone
25 Jai —
26 Primary
27 Folklore monster
28 Singer k.d.
29 Concept
30 Prying
31 Hereditary unit
35 AARP concerns
38 Campaign phrase
40 Kyiv's land (Abbr.)
42 Sch. URL ender
45 Hibernia
47 Mighty trees
48 Director Mira
49 Candied veggies
50 Author Harper
51 Under the weather
52 — Jam (video-game series)
53 Salty expanse
54 Blasting stick

Solution time: 23 mins.

S	W	A	B	■	R	O	M	O	■	I	S	H
C	O	R	E	■	E	M	I	L	■	N	E	O
I	N	T	H	E	N	A	V	Y	■	T	A	R
■	■	■	A	V	E	R	■	M	E	H	T	A
O	L	I	V	E	■	■	E	P	E	E	■	■
M	I	N	E	■	D	E	B	U	N	K	E	D
N	E	T	■	T	O	M	B	S	■	N	A	E
I	N	H	I	B	I	T	S	■	J	O	S	E
■	■	E	D	I	T	■	■	P	O	W	E	R
H	A	Z	E	L	■	O	T	O	H	■	■	■
A	M	O	■	I	N	T	H	E	N	E	W	S
H	E	N	■	S	H	O	O	■	N	C	I	S
A	X	E	■	I	L	E	R	■	Y	O	G	I

Yesterday's answer 2-25

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			■	34				35	■	36		
37			38	■	39				40			
41				42	■	43				■	■	■
■	■	■	44		45	■	■	46		47	48	49
50	51	52				53	54		■	55		
56				■	57				■	58		
59				■	60				■	61		