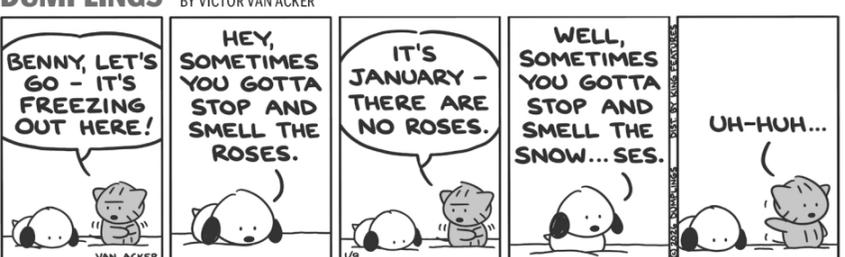




DUMPLINGS BY VICTOR VAN ACKER



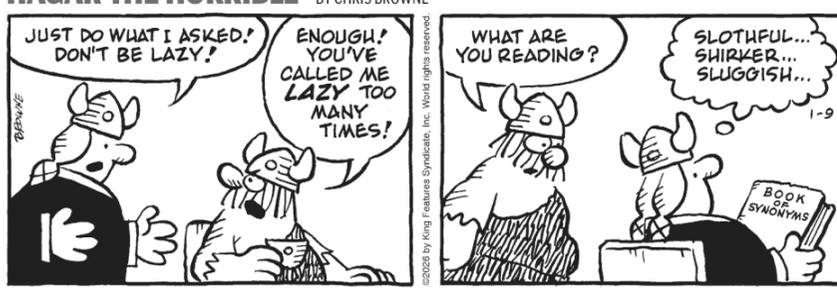
NEVER BEEN DEADER BY TOMMY DEVOID



ZITS BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE BY CHRIS BROWNE



ROYAL STARS

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE FROM GEORGIA NICOLS

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

Moon Alert: There are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions today. The Moon is in LIBRA. ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★★ Today you're restless to do something that's ambitious or noteworthy.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY For Friday, Jan. 9, 2026:

You have sharp, analytical skills and keen powers of perception. You're determined and committed to whatever you choose. This is a slower paced year. It's OK to rest. Take time to rejuvenate your energy.

BORN TODAY Actor J.K. Simmons (1955), actress Nina Dobrev (1989), singer-songwriter Joan Baez (1941)

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★★ Your communication skills are amazing today, which is good news for those of you in sales, marketing, teaching, acting or writing.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★ This is a tricky day because in one way, you're willing to bust your buns to boost your income, especially if it's a new idea or you want to initiate a new project.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★★ Today the Sun is lined up with fiery Mars in your sign, making you feel vigorous! Because of this high level of energy, you need to be physically active.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) HHH You might feel restless today because you have lots of energy building up within you, and you might not be sure where or how to channel it.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★★ Today you might express a burst of energy in a creative way in the arts or the entertainment world or the hospitality industry.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★ Disputes about shared property, inheritances, taxes and insurance issues might arise today. If they do, they'll be intense and in-your-face.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★ You might encounter someone today who inspires you with their energy. They might arouse your ambition, stimulate your confidence and make you want to do something.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★★ You'll be productive today because the Sun is lined up with Mars in the part of your chart that makes you want to get things done!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★★ You have an amazing burst of energy today that you can use for creative expression and anything to do with the performing arts, writing, music, you name it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★ You are affected by your immediate environment, and you want your home to look attractive. Sometimes it's messy and out of control, but you wish it looked nice.

INSANITY STREAK BY TONY LOPES



SUDOKU

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9 7 | 3 2 5 | | 1 |
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Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

Difficulty: ★★★★★ 1/9

SHEFFER CROSSWORD

ACROSS 1 Child's play 6 Calendar abbr. 9 USN bigwig 12 Hirsute 13 Hasten 14 Martini request 15 Open a tooth-paste tube 16 Capital of Puerto Rico 18 Has because of 20 "Fernando" group 21 More, to Manuel 23 - -mo (replay speed) 24 Big hit 25 In - (even) 27 Poppy drug 29 Fee 31 Kind of garage 35 Stop-watch button 37 Chal-lenge 38 Jewish holiday 41 Cistern 43 Zodiac animal 44 Spelling-out phrase 45 Pushed (around) 47 Capital of Thailand 49 Wanted-poster info 52 Cover 53 - -de-France 54 Rummage (through) 55 Switch positions 56 Auction signal 57 Less risky DOWN 1 "Wicked" director Jon M. — 2 Author Fleming 3 Capital of Cyprus 4 Gullet 5 Promotes 6 "Enough already!" 7 "Arrive-erci!" 8 X, at times 9 "In Treatment" actress Uzo 10 Olive — (military uniforms) 11 Talking bird 17 Stuck 19 Plum relatives 21 Buddy 22 Sports fig. 24 Heat source 26 Wrong 28 Smidgens 30 Tiara jewel 32 Capital of Wales 33 Football's Par-seghian 34 Sleep acronym 36 Called forth 38 Cellist Casals 39 Olympic track star Bolt 40 Orange peels 42 Despots 45 Cowboy's neckwear 46 Director Kazan 48 Family 50 Pub serving 51 Sun. talk

TODAY'S ANSWER

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

DENNIS THE MENACE



THE FAMILY CIRCUS



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11
12 13 14
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29 30 31 32 33 34
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38 39 40 41 42 43
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