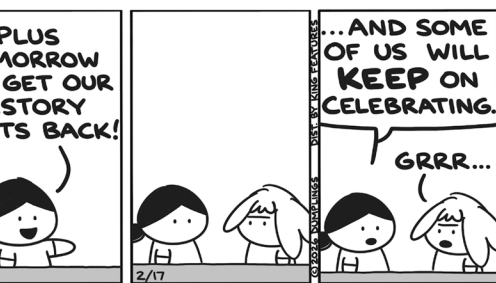
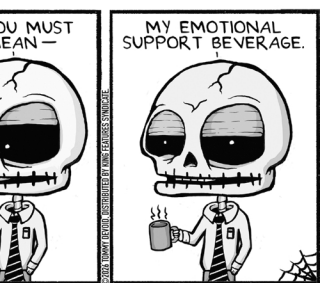




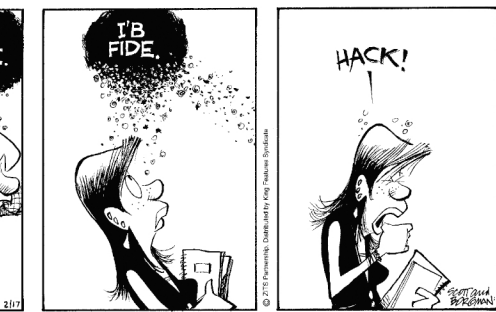
DUMPLINGS BY VICTOR VAN ACKER



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: Avoid shopping (except for food and gas) and major decisions from 6:45 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. EST today (3:45 a.m. to 6:30 a.m. PST). After that, the Moon moves from **AQUARIUS** into **PISCES**.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★★ We are gregarious creatures. We need to see others, and we also need to be seen. Think about how you can improve your closest friendships today. What kind of friend are you to others? The key to having friends is to be friendly. Tonight: Enjoy privacy.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★ Today's New Moon occurs at the top of your chart, offering you a chance to think about your life direction. Where do you want to be one year from now? This is the day to look at your attitude toward authority figures — the police, your boss, parents and the government. Tonight: Be friendly.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★★ This is the perfect day to take stock of your education and life experiences. What further education or training might improve your job? What about travel? Do you want to broaden your experience of the world by seeing new places and meeting new faces? Tonight: You're high-viz.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★ The New Moon today is the best day all year to think about your shared assets with the government, credit card companies, etc. In other words, what is your debt scene? How independent are you, and how much do you rely on others? (Of course, we all rely on others.) Tonight: Explore and learn.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★ Today the New Moon is opposite your sign prompting you to think about your long-term committed relationships. We often attract people who meet our self-fulfilling prophecies. What do you expect from others? What do others expect from you? Tonight: Check your finances.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★ Once a year, the New Moon urges you to ponder how you can improve your job or how you do your work. It's also the best day to think about what you can do to improve your health. Don't take your body for granted. Cherish it. Tonight: Be receptive.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★★ You appreciate beauty. You're aware of lighting, colors, fragrances, the composition of furniture and spatial relations. Think about how the arts — as well as romance and children — enrich your life. Tonight: Work to get better organized.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

For Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2026:

You're sensitive, observant and trusting. You're also determined and passionate about individual freedom. This is a slower paced year. Take time to rest and rejuvenate yourself. Hang out with people who are kind, helpful and have your back.

BORN TODAY

Basketball champ Michael Jordan (1963), singer-songwriter Ed Sheeran (1991), actor Joseph Gordon-Levitt (1981)

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★ This is an excellent day to think about your security, your home and your relations with family. These are important issues, and today's New Moon is the best day of the year to think about how you can make these relationships mutually supportive. Tonight: Socialize!

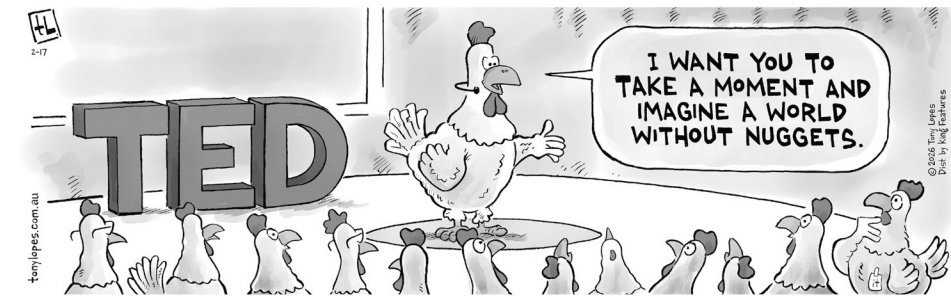
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★★ Today's New Moon is an excellent day to think about your style of communicating with others. Do you wait for others to speak first? Are you friendly or suspicious? Talking, reading and listening are food for your soul. Tonight: Relax at home.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★ The New Moon today occurs in your Money House, which means it's your chance to think about your attitude toward money. Which type are you? Do you think "easy come, easy go"? Or, like most **CAPRICORNS**, do you agree that "a penny saved is a penny earned"? Tonight: A discussion with someone.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★★ Today the only New Moon in your sign all year is taking place, giving you a chance to think about how others see you. After all, you never get a second chance to make a first impression. Are you pleased with the image that you project? Tonight: Check your belongings.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★ The New Moon today is taking place in a hidden part of your chart dealing with secret emotions and subconscious patterns of behavior. It's a chance for you to think about how you might act in self-defeating ways that sabotage your best interests. Be aware of this. Tonight: You win!

INSANITY STREAK BY TONY LOPES



SUDOKU

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

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

Difficulty: ★★

SHEFFER CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Ernie's "Sesame Street" pal
- 5 NYC airport
- 8 Prayer ender
- 12 Biblical grain measure
- 13 Bit of physics
- 14 "I did it!"
- 15 "Rent" role
- 16 Toothbrush features
- 18 Accepting kickbacks, say
- 20 Insurance giant
- 21 Historic time
- 22 Coffee vessel
- 23 Stab
- 26 "Blue Bloods" actress Moynahan
- 30 Small batteries
- 31 JFK Library architect
- 32 Dallas hoopster, briefly
- 33 French roll
- 36 Compute fruits
- 38 Doze (off)

DOWN

- 1 Broadway flop
- 2 Mideast ruler
- 3 Notes after "do"
- 4 Teams on "Survivor"
- 5 Sign after Virgo
- 6 Like slash-er films
- 7 Singer DiFranco
- 8 Be there
- 9 Beer ingredient
- 10 Genesis garden
- 11 "Apollo 13" org.
- 17 Rani's dress
- 19 Hosp. areas
- 22 Swiss canton
- 23 Prattle
- 24 Former Mideast org.
- 25 "Washington Black" author — Edugyan
- 26 Spell-off
- 27 "Today" alternative, briefly
- 28 Hearing thing
- 29 Sports bar sets
- 31 Prof's degree
- 34 Pushkin's "Eugene —"
- 35 Pop choice
- 36 Luau bowlful
- 37 Range
- 39 Director Welles
- 40 New corp. hires
- 41 Roughly
- 42 Band-leader Puente
- 43 Actress Neuwirth
- 44 Diggs of "Private Practice"
- 45 Divisible by two
- 46 Tennis barriers
- 48 FedEx rival

Solution time: 22 mins.

E	C	R	U		L	E	S		S	P	A	T
L	O	O	F		I	V	Y		P	A	L	E
A	S	O	F		V	A	N		B	U	R	E
N	A	T	U	R	E		C	A	R	D	E	D
				R	E	L	O		A	N	O	
F	I	L	M	O	R	E		S	N	U	B	
A	P	E		I	N	C	A	S		M	R	I
B	O	T	S		G	A	R	F	I	E	L	D
		T	A	P		S	C	A	B			
O	N	U	S	E	S		A	X	I	O	M	S
B	U	C	H	A	N	A	N		S	P	O	T
I	D	E	E		I	G	A		E	I	N	E
T	E	S			P	A	L		S	E	A	M

Yesterday's answer 2-17

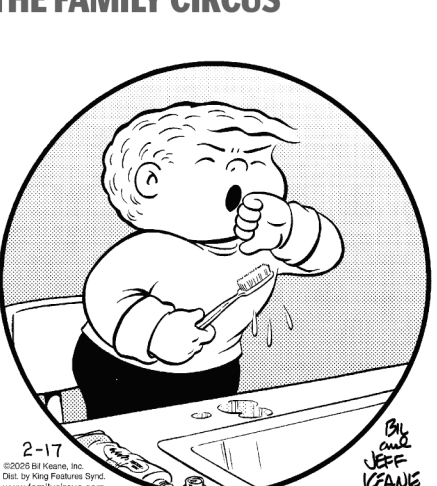
TODAY'S ANSWER

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

DENNIS THE MENACE



THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, OR DIE FROM. DENNIS. THIS OUTFIT IS TO DIE FOR!"

"I don't like this toothbrush. Its bristles are too hard."