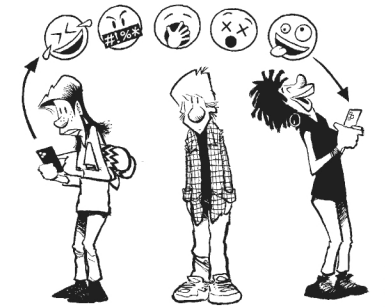




DUMPLINGS BY VICTOR VAN ACKER



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: There are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions today. The Moon is in **AQUARIUS**.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★★ Enjoy your interactions with friends and groups today. You're eager to explore ideas, see new places and meet new faces. In turn, people are attracted to your energy because you're ambitious and proactive. Why not share your goals with someone to get their feedback? Tonight: Socialize.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★ You should know that you are high-viz today, which means some people might know personal details about your private life. Be aware of this in case you have to do some damage control. Meanwhile, discussions about shared property, taxes, leases, insurance issues and inheritances are a strong focus. Tonight: Show respect.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★★ This is a chatty day, and you'll be in your glory, because someone you know will be interesting and informative. You might get some recent gossip or the latest scoop about something. You will certainly come across news that interests you. Travel plans might be in the picture. Tonight: Make plans.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★ This is a good day for mental work because you will be more attentive to details. Whatever you do, you will do it carefully and you will do it well. Discussions about shared property and inheritances will be productive. Be patient with partners and close friends. Tonight: Check paperwork and banking.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★★ You're more in touch with your feelings today and the feelings of people you encounter, especially younger people and children. Cooperate with others about creative matters or anything to do with sports, the entertainment world and education. Share your ideas but listen as well. Tonight: Listen.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★ This is a productive day at work for you because your mind is sharp and you are patient enough to pay attention to detail. You'll get a lot done, as well as making progress with family discussions and home repairs. Oh yes, you have a finger in every pie! Tonight: Be productive.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★★ Today you're pleased with yourself, which is why you'll enjoy schmoozing with everyone. Romance will flourish. Discussions about children, creative projects, vacations and short trips will appeal to you. You might be happy to escape the demands of home today. Tonight: Relax.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

For Tuesday, Dec. 23, 2025:

You are spirited and willing to lead people down the best path. You are committed and resourceful. This is a successful year for you because you will get recognition for your past efforts. Power and leadership will be yours. Expect a promotion, kudos, awards and acknowledgement!

BORN TODAY

Actor Finn Wolfhard (2002), musician Chet Baker (1929), trials cyclist Danny MacAskill (1985)

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★ Two different energies are at play today. In one way, you would like to relax at home and keep a low profile. Take it easy among familiar surroundings. However, you also might be busy with work and financial discussions, especially about how to boost your earnings. A little of both? Tonight: Take it easy.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★★ The Moon is dancing with Mercury in your sign boosting the tempo of your activity today. This is why you'll spend time talking to friends, acquaintances and neighbors — you need to verbalize your feelings. Conversations, phone calls and texts will fill your day. Tonight: Learn something.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★ You're an astute thinker and a good planner, and today some behind-the-scenes research might yield ways to boost your income or find a better paying job. Trust your moneymaking ideas. Meanwhile, people will listen to you because you appear to be confident. Tonight: Check your money.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★★ This is a strong day for you because the Moon is in your sign dancing with Mercury, encouraging lighthearted conversations with younger people. You might make a new friend today, especially someone who is full of stimulating ideas. You feel you have something in common with someone. Tonight: You're strong.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★★ You make a great impression on others today, which is why this is a good time to talk to bosses and authority figures. They see you as clever, expressive and someone who is quick to grasp ideas. They also might admire the research and learning you have done quietly on your own. Tonight: Privacy.

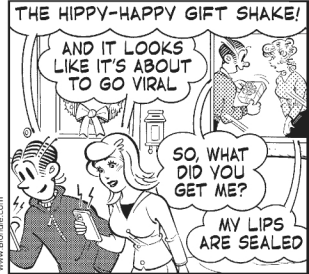
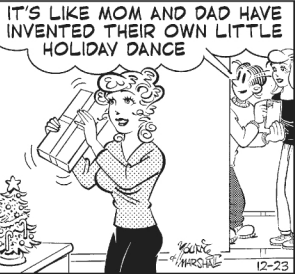
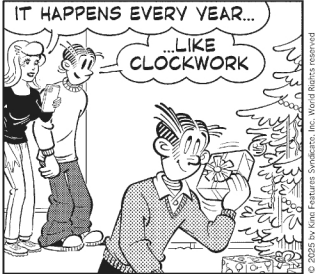
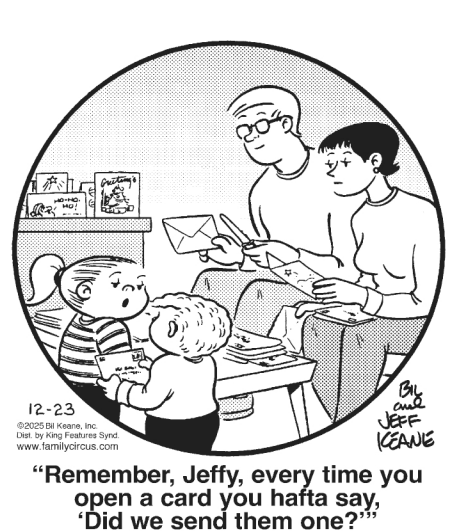
TODAY'S ANSWER

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

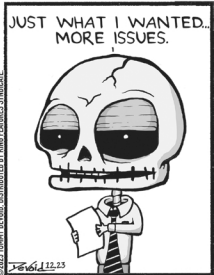
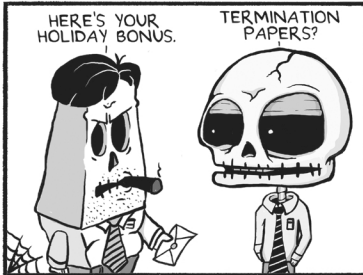
DENNIS THE MENACE



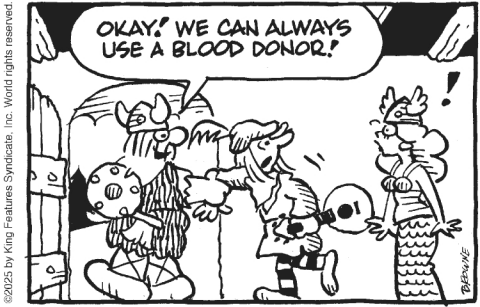
THE FAMILY CIRCUS



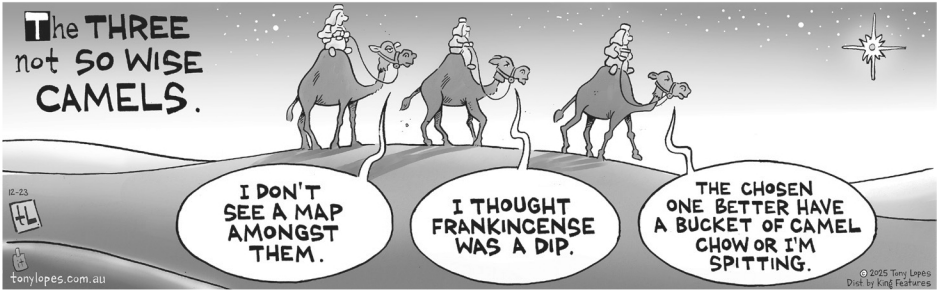
NEVER BEEN DEADER BY TOMMY DEVOID



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE BY CHRIS BROWNE



INSANITY STREAK BY TONY LOPES



SUDOKU

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

Difficulty: ★★

12/23

SHEFFER CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Union jack?
- 5 "The Voice" network
- 8 The "A" of UAE
- 12 Killer whale
- 13 "Alley —"
- 14 Vegas game
- 15 Rural tract
- 16 Orchestra winds
- 18 Bungled
- 20 Storage site
- 21 Nay under
- 22 Attorneys' org.
- 23 Actress Witherspoon
- 26 Be-fuddle
- 30 Shade tree
- 31 — polloi
- 32 Wall St. debut
- 33 Make fuller-looking, as a pillow

36 "Awe-some!"

- 38 Corn serving
- 39 Yucatan year
- 40 Orchestra strings
- 43 Viral winter woes
- 47 Tooth-paste ingredient, often
- 49 Scottish slope
- 50 Yemen neighbor
- 51 Karaoke prop, for short
- 52 Dust jacket ID
- 53 — -chef
- 54 Mac rivals

55 Sunrise direction

DOWN

- 1 Remove, as a hat
- 2 Russian river
- 3 Off-white
- 4 Brazilian dances
- 5 Type of checking
- 6 Brazen
- 7 "Brain" of a computer
- 8 Japanese dogs
- 9 Kick back
- 10 Con
- 11 Pear variety
- 17 Perfume by Dana
- 19 "See ya!"

22 Boxer

- Laila
- 23 Ump
- 24 Right angle
- 25 Outback bird
- 26 Dandy guy
- 27 Dead heat
- 28 Ecol. watchdog
- 29 Decay
- 31 "Ben- —"
- 34 Criminals
- 35 Equitable
- 36 Bearded antelope
- 37 "Barbie" star
- Margot
- 39 "Smart" guys?
- 40 Fiscal execs
- 41 Ticklish Muppet
- 42 Hawaiian feast
- 43 Bank acct. protector
- Minor
- 44 — Minor
- 45 Yaks
- 46 Emailed
- 48 Little rascal

Solution time: 22 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 12-23

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		