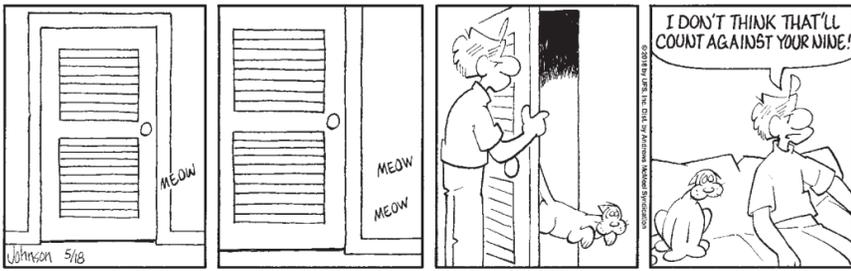


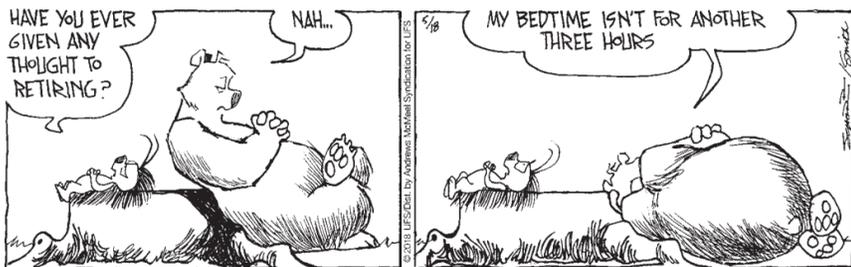
ARLO AND JANIS® by Jimmy Johnson



FRANK & ERNEST® by Bob Thaves



THE GRIZZWELLS® by Bill Schorr



BIG NATE® by Lincoln Peirce



ALLEY OOP by Jack and Carole Bender



SOUP TO NUTZ by Rick Stromoski



THE BORN LOSER™ by Art & Chip Sansom



HERMAN® by Jim Unger



REALITY CHECK® by Dave Whamond



AT THE MOVIES

Insanity of 'Deadpool 2' reaches expectations

(AP) -- At a recent screening of "Deadpool 2," the audience didn't get up when the end credits came up, patiently sitting through the scrolling names of visual effects supervisors and lighting specialists. Real "Deadpool" fans know to stick around until the ushers toss them out.

That's because the filmmakers aren't content with containing their sprawling, anarchic and subversive hero in any conventional box. No, in the world of Deadpool, even the boring end credits are studded with jokes and teases.

So hold onto your seats as Ryan Reynolds once more dons the red suit and katana swords for this saucy, overstuffed and very entertaining sequel to the 2016 massive hit

Brolin), a motley crew of mutants he calls X-Force — "Isn't that a little derivative?" someone asks snarkily — and various superheroes and mutants, all set to a lively soundtrack that includes Air Supply, Peter Gabriel, "Annie" and an original song with filthy lyrics. If something can be oddly sweet while heads are being decapitated, it's this film.

Some favorites from the first film are back — some only briefly — such as housemate Leslie Uggams, girlfriend Morena Baccarin and cab driver Karan Soni. The new characters don't have time to make much of an impression, except for Zazie Beetz from "Atlanta" who has a great turn as Domino, a strong, sardonic superhero who relies on luck.

Deadpool, of course, helps us along the film's convoluted plot with such post-modern cracks as "Big CGI fight coming up!" or the put-down, "That's just lazy writing"



or, after a cool sequence, "Tell me they got that in slow motion."

Director David Leitch replaces Tim Miller but there's been no noticeable change in tone or corrosion in the franchise's terrific special effects. If anything, the surprising success of the original has resulted in more money and more insane sequences, like a chase sequence with a truck convoy and a bizarre scene when Deadpool's legs regrow after he is cut in half, giving him baby limbs for a time.

Reynolds is once again at his arch and nihilist best here, while acting and jumping in so much facial prosthetics that it makes him look like he's inside melted cheese — or, as the first movie put it, an avocado that had relations with an older avocado.

To really appreciate "Deadpool 2" you have to have seen the original and probably every other Marvel superhero film, too. And be up on pop culture, from Cher to Broadway musicals. Speaking of ends, don't embarrass yourself by getting up to leave when it seems to be over.

"Deadpool 2," 20th Century Fox release, is rated R by the Motion Picture Association of America for "strong violence and language throughout, sexual references and brief drug material." Running time: 119 minutes.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS

- 1 Shapers' word
- 4 Kapow!
- 8 Toss in
- 11 Patella site
- 13 Angelic aura
- 14 RV haven
- 15 Citrus peel
- 16 Put a name to
- 18 Garrets
- 20 The skinny
- 21 — choy
- 22 Golf peg
- 24 Practice
- 27 Outspoken
- 30 Days gone by
- 31 Poet
- 32 Sahib's rule
- 34 MPG monitor
- 35 Swine
- 36 Nasty
- 37 Make possible
- 39 Short stay
- 40 Fetched
- 41 Fist bump
- 42 Nave neighbor
- 45 Vitality
- 49 Chasers
- 53 Peeve
- 54 Interest amt.
- 55 Intuit
- 56 Kilt wearer
- 57 Popular beverage
- 58 Wields an ax
- 59 "Shogun" apparel

DOWN

- 1 Slimy vegetable
- 2 Ounce or inch
- 3 Lease
- 4 Meringue maker
- 5 I've been —!
- 6 Stein filler
- 7 Sun. follower
- 8 Similar
- 9 Tip one's hat
- 10 "The Banana Boat Song" (hyph.)
- 12 Fit to eat
- 17 Secured
- 19 Rank above maj.
- 22 Does road work
- 23 Conclude
- 24 Do Easter eggs
- 25 Lasso
- 26 Persia, today
- 27 Hamster's digs
- 28 Late spring flower
- 29 Melting-watch artist
- 31 Flash of lightning
- 33 Airport arrival
- 35 Cable network
- 36 Asps
- 38 Epochs
- 39 Furniture mover
- 41 Cubicle fillers
- 42 Dr. visit
- 43 Brownish-purple
- 44 Baja Ms.
- 46 Wealthy, in Madrid
- 47 Goopy mass
- 48 Sherpa's sighting
- 50 "Yuck!"
- 51 Sooner than anon
- 52 Ply the oars

Answer to Previous Puzzle

M	M	C	G	A	S	T	A	C	O
P	E	A	I	O	W	A	E	L	I
H	A	N	G	S	T	E	N	C	O
L	E	A	S	H	W	H	E	E	
B	U	S	T	R	I				
P	H	A	S	E	L	A	R	S	
C	O	X	S	M	U	T	S	A	I
T	O	E	A	R	A	B	I	L	E
K	L	U	D	G	E	L	A	D	L
L	E	I	Q	U	I				
W	A	L	E	T	E	L	L	S	
F	I	L	E	O	M	I	S	S	I
E	L	M	S	R	A	P	T	L	I
W	E	S	T	E	D	S	T	L	C

Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com

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		

4-24 © 2017 UFS, Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication for UFS