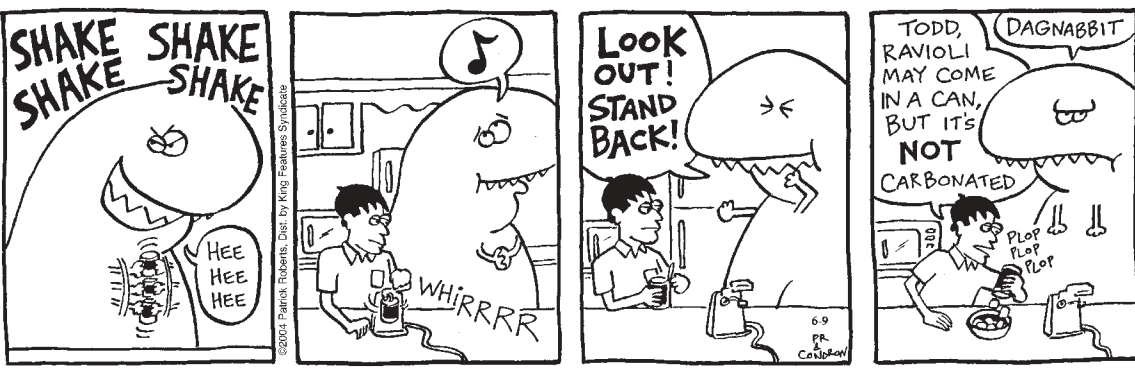


For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



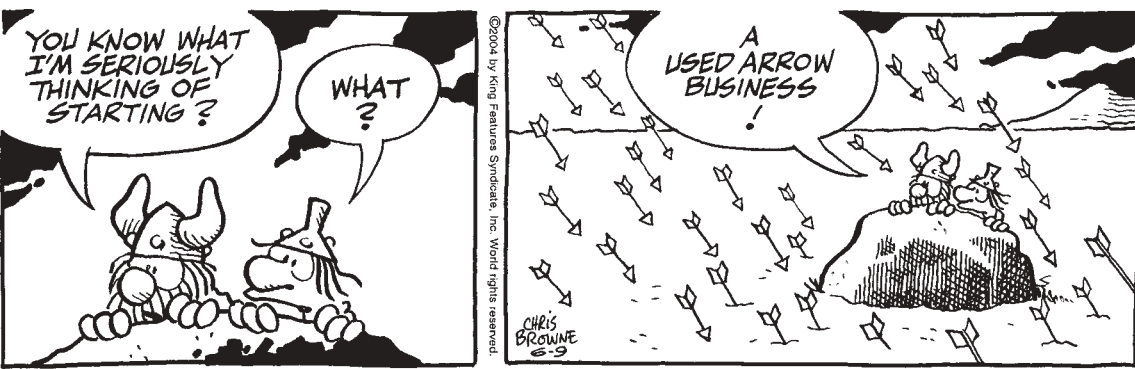
Tod The Dinosaur • PR Condon



Garfield • Jim Davis



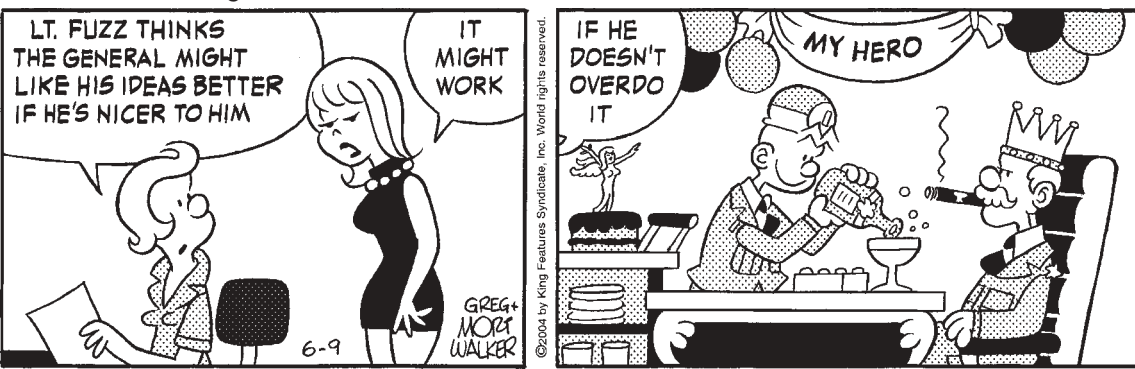
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Blondie • Chic Young



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Cryptoquip

UT O GQOSAH YHSAQL UA IFJ MJI'X BQECI QX GPRF  
ZLSZKF OB O AAGUOK ICC BJXXQGQXIQR. FJ  
IOBVHSULI, UA VH BVH RCPEV PXJ DL DEIQIPVJ  
ABSUTH QT BVH YOSBF?  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: NEW SITCOM CONCERNING THE PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH OLD BOATERS: "ROWING PAINS."  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: S equals R  
DVMPXIGJLI.  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A COARSE PERSON IS UNRULY AT A SOCIAL GATHERING, IS HE THE STRIFE OF THE PARTY?  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: X equals S

Crossword

**ACROSS**

1 Wading bird  
5 Shape shifter?  
8 Appear  
12 Egg container?  
13 Sinbad's flier  
14 Killer whale  
15 Copenhagen dweller  
16 Type of boat motor  
18 Synopsis  
20 Follow  
21 Negligent  
22 Doctor's due  
23 Black tea of India  
26 Insult added to injury?  
30 Sticky stuff  
31 Possess  
32 Rotation duration  
33 Al fresco  
36 Wall-paperer's need  
38 Moreover  
39 Crony  
40 Ex-hausted

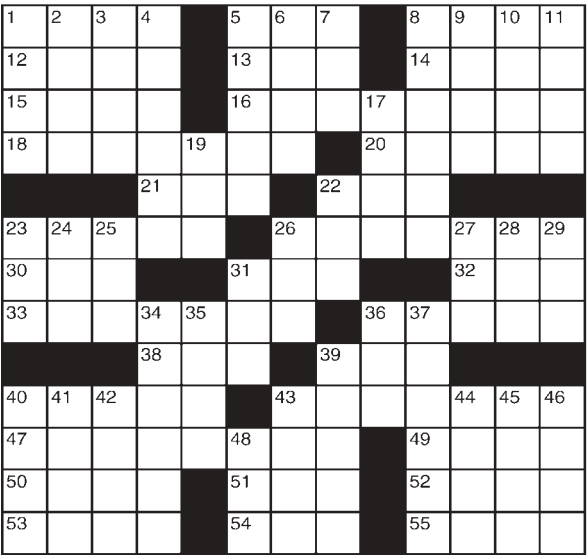
**DOWN**

1 — -Euro-  
2 One of Lloyd's sons  
3 "— It Romantic?"  
4 "A Streetcar Named Desire" role  
5 "Cheer"-ful part of NYC?  
6 Libertine  
7 Performance base  
8 Okia-homan  
9 Historic periods  
10 Beige  
11 Put together  
17 Borscht  
19 Cartesian conclusion  
22 Enjoyment

**Solution time: 21 mins.**

SY	NC	D	I	E	A	D	A	R		
N	O	A	H	O	D	E	N	O	L	O
A	R	I	A	W	A	L	L	O	W	E
P	E	R	S	O	N	S	E	I	N	E
S	I	D	E	R	O	A	D	T	I	D
A	D	O	S	A	M	O	A	Z	O	E
M	O	W	S	D	E	W	I	N	E	S
A	P	P	I	A	N	B	E	W	A	R
I	R	O	N	W	A	R	E	B	U	Y
D	O	U	G	B	O	A	I	T	R	E
S	P	R	Y	S	E	T	E	A	S	E

**Yesterday's answer 6-8**



**ACROSS**

1 Show-man Ziegfeld  
4 South (Sp.)  
7 Belarussian, e.g.  
8 Mis-behave  
10 Expiate  
11 Duo  
13 Richard Harris hit  
16 Ararat arrival  
17 Radio's Howard  
18 Resembling (Suff.)  
19 Sports arbiters  
20 From the beginning  
21 Refuge  
23 Dennis Miller specialties  
25 Astor wares  
26 Depend (on)

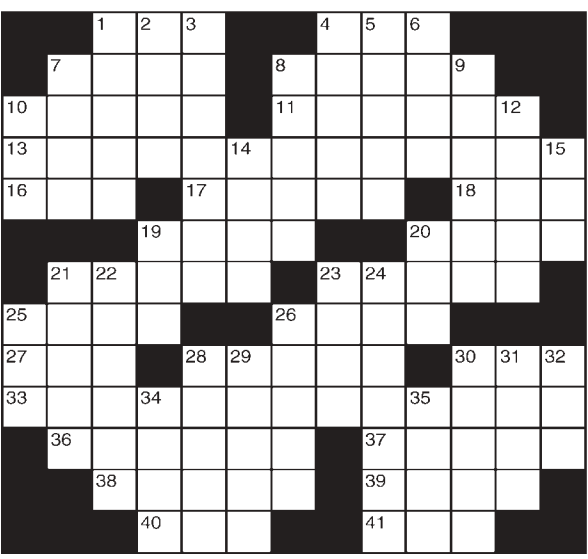
**DOWN**

1 Yankee Doodle ...  
2 Actress Turner  
3 Supervise  
4 Use steel wool  
5 Driving maneuver  
6 Debra Jo of "That '70s Show"  
7 Luminary  
8 Rues the run  
9 Lamentation  
10 "I — Camera"  
12 Sea fliers

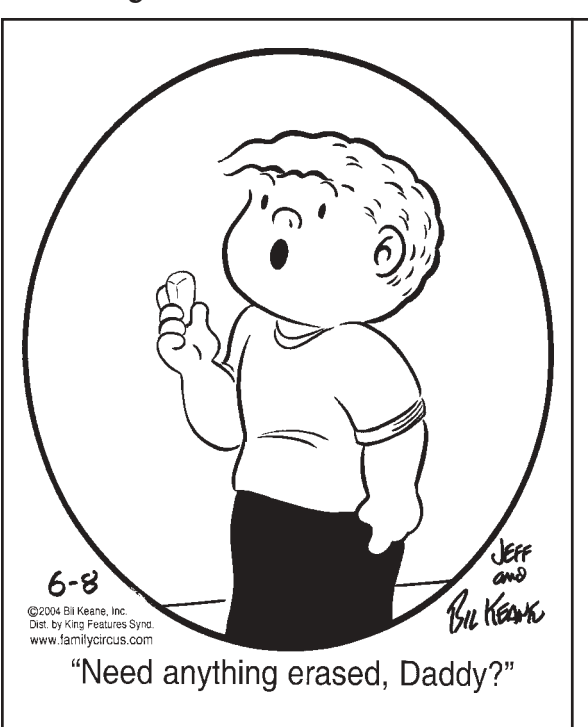
**Solution time: 21 mins.**

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

**Yesterday's answer 6-9**



Family Circus • Bill Keane



Bridge

South dealer.  
Both sides vulnerable.

**NORTH**

♠ A J 5 4  
♥ Q 2  
♦ 10 9 8 5 4 3  
♣ J

**WEST**

♠ K Q 8 7  
♥ J 6 3  
♦ K Q J  
♣ 4 3 2

**EAST**

♠ 10 9 6 3 2  
♥ 10 8 7 5  
♦ 6  
♣ 8 7 6

**SOUTH**

♠ A K 9 4  
♥ A 7 2  
♦ A K Q 10 9 5

The bidding:  
**South** 2 ♠  
**West** Pass  
**North** 2 ♥  
**East** Pass

6 NT  
Opening lead — king of diamonds.

Sylvia Cashes a Loser

It was impossible to anticipate the type of error Sylvia might make next. Sylvia could bid some hands well, play her cards as declarer acceptably and defend reasonably enough on other occasions. But the trouble was that you could never tell when some strange misadventure was about to take place, or when some peculiar thought process would suddenly take possession of her.

It is therefore no wonder that the members of the club trembled inwardly whenever they cut her as a partner. They knew that anything could, and probably would, happen at any time.

Yet with all that, Sylvia did occasionally produce a genuine gem that would then serve for weeks on end as a conversation piece among the members. Today's hand provides a typical example.

Sylvia was in six notrump, and West led a diamond. She took the ace and cashed six club tricks, West discarding two spades and a heart, while East discarded three spades. Sylvia now played the Q-K-A of hearts, and then, having seen the jack of hearts fall, and acting under the delusion that her nine was now a trick, she tried to cash it.

This inadvertence had a devastating effect on West. The position when Sylvia played the nine was:

North [S]    A J [D] 10  
West [S]    K Q [D] Q  
East [S]    10 9 [H] 10  
South [H]    9 [D] 7 2

West could not find a satisfactory discard when the heart was led.

Whatever he played, dummy would win the last two tricks.

Tomorrow: High-class defense.  
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South dealer.  
Both sides vulnerable.

**NORTH**

♠ Q 9  
♥ K Q 8 5  
♦ K Q J 10  
♣ J 6 3

**WEST**

♠ J 10 5  
♥ A 6  
♦ 7 4  
♣ A K Q 10 8 2

**EAST**

♠ 8 3  
♥ 10 9 7 4 2  
♦ 8 5 3 2  
♣ 7 4

**SOUTH**

♠ A K 7 6 4 2  
♥ J 3  
♦ A 9 6  
♣ 9 5

The bidding:  
**South** 1 ♠  
**West** 2 ♣  
**North** 2 ♦  
**East** Pass

Opening lead — king of clubs.

High-Class Defense

Anyone can take tricks with aces and kings; the real challenge lies in taking tricks with lower-ranking cards. Consider this deal where declarer made four spades. West started with the K-Q-A of clubs, South ruffing the third club as East discarded a heart. Declarer drew trumps, lost a heart and made 10 tricks without breathing hard.

The outcome seems normal, but in fact better defense would have stopped the contract. Upon viewing the dummy, West can place South with the A-K of spades and ace of diamonds for his opening bid. After the queen of clubs holds at trick two, West should conclude that the only chance for the defense lies in scoring a trump trick that does not exist naturally.

West should therefore lead a low club instead of the ace at trick three. As it happens, East is able to ruff dummy's jack of clubs with the eight of spades, after which South must go down one, whatever he does. His best play is to overruff, hoping the remaining trumps are divided 2-2, but when West turns up with the J-10-x, the contract is down one.

Note that West does not lead the K-A and a low club, since East might make the mistake of ruffing the third club low, thinking South has the queen. Instead, West leads the K-Q of clubs, announcing he has the ace, and then continues with a low club to emphasize the need for East to ruff with his highest trump.

Tomorrow: Choosing the line of play.  
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