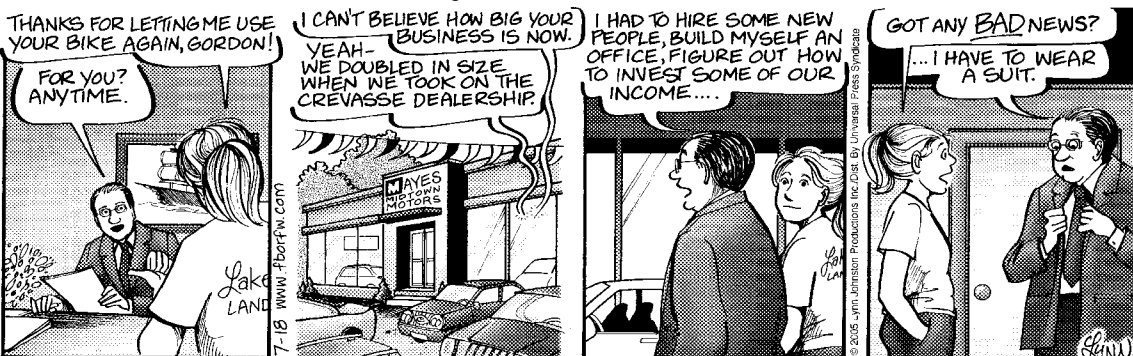


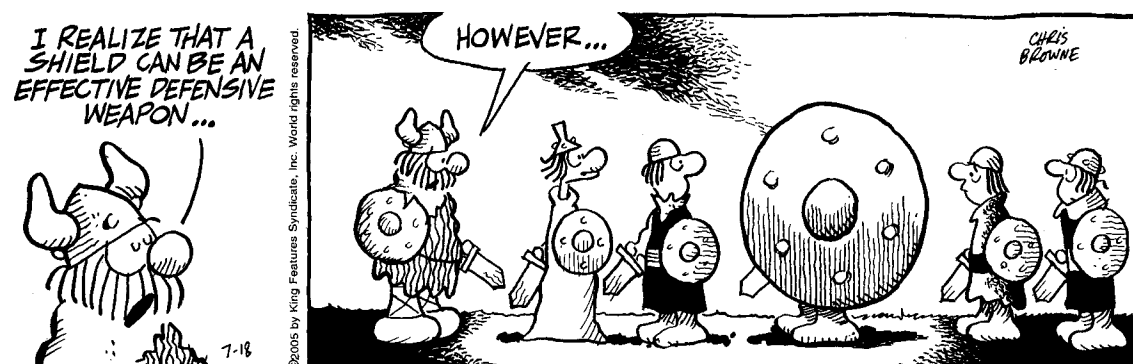
## For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



## Garfield • Jim Davis



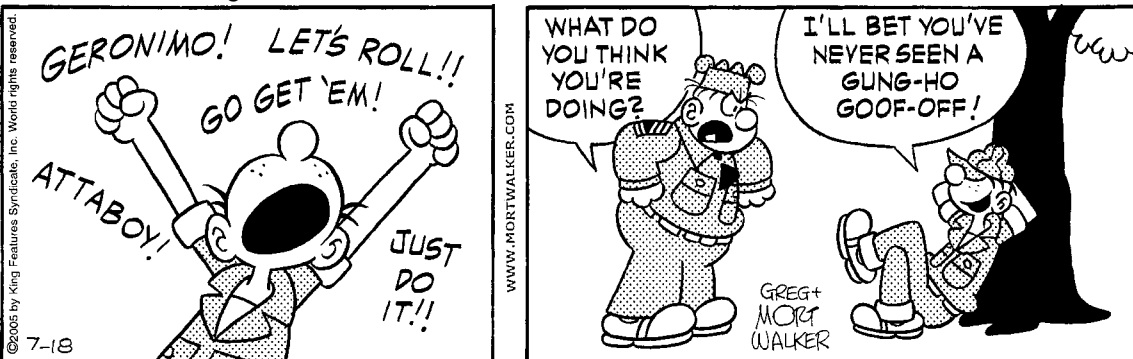
## Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



## Blondie • Chic Young



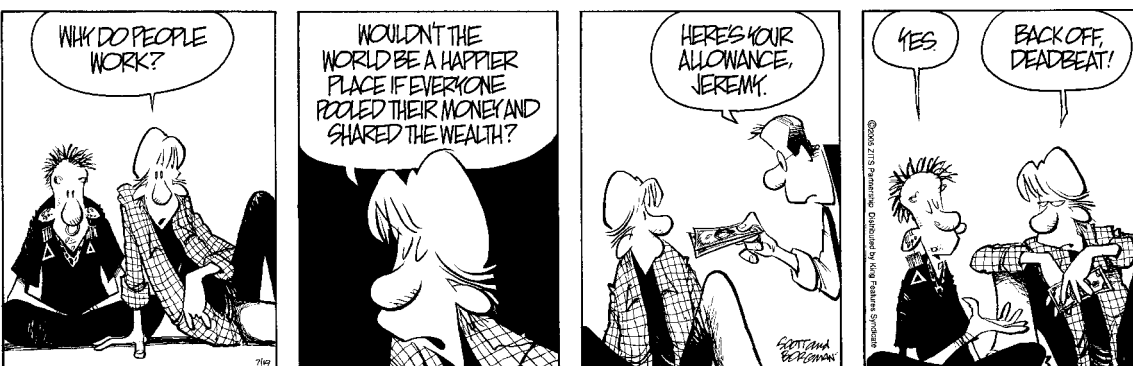
## Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



## Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



## Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



## Sally Forth • Greg Howard



## Cryptoquip

Q S J T J K O - E V K U Q A X

I Q X Z M B E M K M R T V K B V S

Y K M J B T, Q X H M R R Q B E V H Z O

Y M B T M I Q A U I J A B M K.

**Saturday's Cryptoquip:** IF A JUDGE IS BUYING SHAMPOO AND TOOTHPASTE, MAYBE HE'LL JUST PREFER TRIAL-SIZE TUBES.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: T equals H

# Small-town girl takes big risks



## Abigail Van Buren

### • Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I'm a police officer with a large metropolitan police department. I have been dating a wonderful woman I'll call "Jamie" who was raised in — and still resides in — a small town where everyone knows everyone, and many people still leave their doors unlocked. I'm frustrated with her because she's so trusting of everyone.

The last time Jamie came here to visit, she accepted a ride from a complete stranger while walking to a nightclub. Because she thought he was "nice," she also gave him her name and phone number. Jamie frequently picks up hitchhikers, and last week after she finished work, she let an intoxicated male come to her barber shop at 10 p.m. and gave him a haircut. When she was finished cutting his hair, she told me he took out a bag of marijuana and asked her to smoke with him. Jamie does not use controlled substances. She says she gave him a ride back to his hotel so he would leave the shop.

I constantly tell my girlfriend to use common sense with strangers and stop assuming everyone is nice. I see violence, misery and mayhem every day, and I tell her about it. I'm afraid unless she starts using common sense that one day she'll be a victim. Please help me get through to her.

— WITS' END IN THE WEST

**DEAR "END":** While I admire your girlfriend's optimism, I agree her naivete is dangerous. So far she has been lucky — but any one of the incidents you described could have ended badly.

A picture is worth a thousand words. Because you have been unable to convince her verbally, consider showing her photographs of what has happened to some of the individuals who became victims because they were in the wrong place at the wrong time, or because they trusted a stranger.

DEAR ABBY: I have wanted to convert to Judaism ever since I was 16. (I am now 19.) I was raised as a Christian by non-religious parents. But when I announced that I wanted to convert, they had a fit.

I now realize that I would like to go further than conversion, Abby. I would like to become a rabbi. When I told my parents, they became so upset they ordered me to see a psychologist.

It was hurtful enough that they didn't accept my conversion — and now this. What should I do?

— DEPRESSED IN N.C.

**DEAR DEPRESSED:** Discuss this with your rabbi, who I am sure will be sympathetic and supportive, and by all means talk with a psychologist. A mental health professional may be able to help you find a way to make your parents understand that this is YOUR life and future, and not a criticism of them or the way they raised you.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have a question regarding table manners. He says that when you are eating with your right hand, your left arm should be resting on the table fully extended.

I say your left hand should be in your lap. Who is right?

— WONDERING IN WINDSOR, CALIF.

**DEAR WONDERING:** You are. According to Emily Post's Etiquette (16th Edition): "You may rest your hands and wrists — but not your entire forearm — on the edge of the table."

DEAR ABBY: I am 25, single and hard-working. I am also pregnant. The father, "Zack," is married and expecting his first child in August. I'm due in October.

I met Zack at a bar. I wasn't looking for a serious relationship, just a fun evening. Zack seemed like a nice guy. He never said he was involved with anyone, let alone married, and he wasn't wearing a ring. Well, our night of passion has now led to a lifetime of concern.

Zack doesn't want me to "ruin his marriage," and I don't want to be called a homewrecker. I initially didn't want him involved at all, but reality has set in and I will need his financial help. Once my baby is born, Zack will be taking a blood test to establish paternity. My family knows nothing about all this, but it's hard to hide. It will be even harder once the court comes into play regarding child support. How should I break it to them? Should I be ashamed? I don't think so, because I didn't know Zack was married — so why is he burdening me with the guilt of ruining his marriage?

— MOTHER-TO-BE

**DEAR MOTHER-TO-BE:** Tell your family in plain English about what's going on, because you are going to need their emotional support in the months to come. Clearly, you will get none from Zack because he will have his hands full explaining this child to his wife.

Should you be ashamed? Unless you consider having unprotected sex with a stranger you met at a bar one of your prouder moments, I think you should.

## Bridge

North dealer.

East-West vulnerable.

**NORTH**

♠ A 8 4  
♥ A Q J 6  
♦ K 7 4 3  
♣ 10 3

**WEST**

♠ K 6 3 2  
♥ 10 9  
♦ A J 9 2  
♣ Q 4 2

**EAST**

♠ J 10 9 7  
♥ 4  
♦ Q 8 6 5  
♣ 9 8 7 5

**SOUTH**

♠ Q 5  
♥ K 8 7 5 3 2  
♦ 10  
♣ A K J 6

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	

Opening lead — two of spades.

## Famous Hand

In 1993, a team of young players from the Netherlands — their average age was just over 32 — won the world team championship, helping to dispel fears in bridge's inner circles that interest in the game among the young was on the wane. (That misconception was proven wrong once again when another group of young Netherlands players finished second to Italy in last year's world championship.)

Today's deal comes from the 1993 final against a Norwegian team that itself boasted an average age of only 34! When Bauke Muller and Wubbo de Boer of the Netherlands held the North-South cards, they bid uneventfully to four hearts as shown.

With South as declarer, and with West holding the diamond ace and spade king, 12 tricks could not be stopped. In practice, West led a low spade, which de Boer ran to the queen, and he lost only a diamond trick.

The auction took a decidedly different turn at the other table, where Norway's Tor Helness and Geir Helgemo were North-South:

North East South West

1 NT Pass 2 D Pass

2 H Pass 3 C Pass

3 S Pass 4 NT Pass

5 S Pass 6 H

After an opening notrump bid by Helness and a transfer by South, Helness ended up in six hearts.

As fate would have it, this placed the lead in the East hand, and the Netherlands' Enri Leufkens unerringly found the killing jack-of-spades lead.

Helness tried the queen, covered by the king and ace. In desperation, he led the club ten and finessed, hoping for a miracle. When West produced the queen, the slam was down two, and the youthful Dutch gained 11 IMPs and took a step closer to their first world team championship.

Tomorrow: Trump mismanagement.

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## Family Circus • Bil Keane



**"Is that the glue that holds his diaper up?"**

## Crossword

**ACROSS**

- Upper limit
- Beauty's love
- NYC airport
- Praise in verse
- Host
- "Kitchy—"
- "H.M.S. Pinafore" lyricist
- Director Howard
- Fall (sacred Irish stone)
- Corolla or Camry
- More altruistic
- From the top
- Sandy's reply
- Pvt.'s superior
- Bargain events
- Waistcoat
- Chic no longer
- Carnival attraction
- Hitched like a draft animal

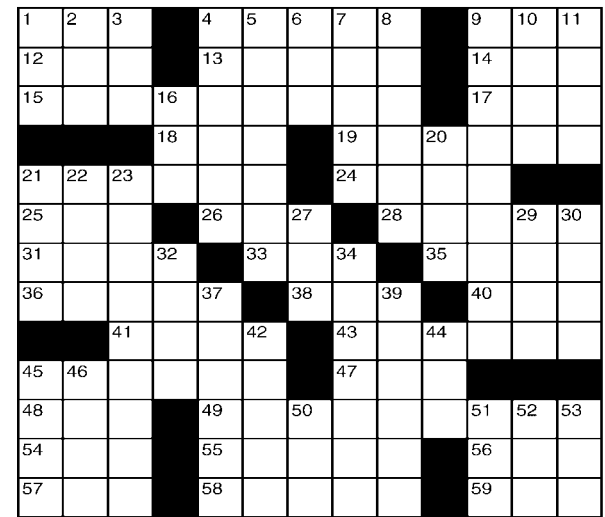
**DOWN**

- Intimate date
- Billboards
- Cribbage scorer
- Proves false
- Prohibition
- Black-jack component
- Mattress brand
- Wyoming range
- Harry Potter's creator
- Stocking stuffer?
- Hawaiian resort area
- Under the weather
- Revolution duration
- Almost black
- Sandwich treat
- "Walden Two" author
- Cistern
- Actress Falco
- Collections
- Garr or Polo
- Poseidon's spear
- Agitation
- Restitution
- Alabama city
- Basic lesson
- Drescher or Tarkenton
- Shakespeare villain
- Chaps
- "Krazy"
- Ostrich's cousin
- Comical Louis

**Solution time: 24 mins.**

JAR	EMU	FREN	MAGUS	ICON	XED	JOH	OLEO	LINT	TOSS
SHES	HURU	OKS	AGUS	CLID	WAX	OLEO	ALOE	ROWS	DINT
BILE	ROAR	STEWART	HEN	VINO	DEMON	ENGLISH	CHI	SEON	SET

**Saturday's answer 7-18**



**THANK YOU FOR READING THE**

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