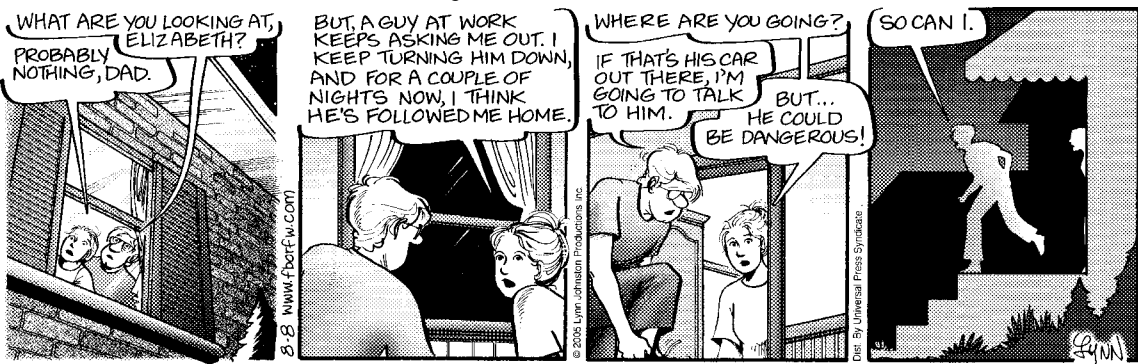


For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



Garfield • Jim Davis



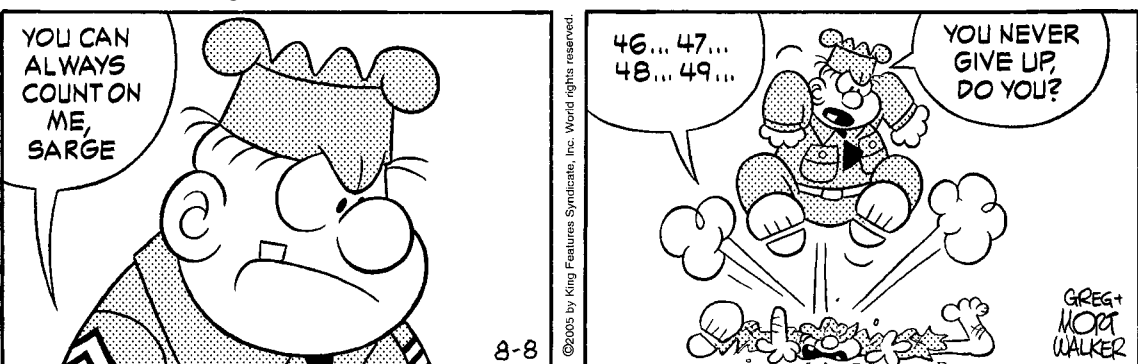
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



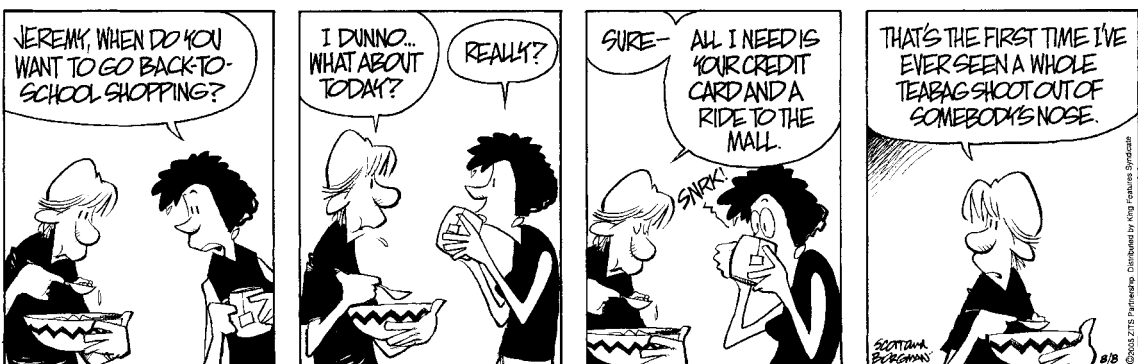
Blondie • Chic Young



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Student still dates guy mom dislikes



Abigail Van Buren

• Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I am a 22-year-old college student and have been dating "Cody" for six years. Four years ago, my mother decided she didn't like him. She told me to either dump him or to forget about going to college.

Not wanting to give up either one, I began to secretly date Cody. I'll be graduating in one more year, and I know that Cody will ask me to marry him. Should I wait another year — until I'm out of college — to tell my mother so she can't keep me from obtaining my degree? Or should I tell her the truth now, so it won't be such a big shock that I'm engaged? I can't just be engaged to a guy I supposedly haven't seen in years.

— UNDECIDED IN TEXAS
DEAR UNDECIDED: You are an adult. Please start acting like one, and inquire at your college about alternative financing for your last year of college. You may qualify for some kind of scholarship, or you may need to take out a student loan and get a part-time job so you won't be dependent upon your mother to complete your education.

If you are mature enough to become engaged, you should be strong enough to level with your mother.

She may not be as dumb as you think she is, but don't expect her to be thrilled to learn that she has been lied to. On a more positive note, you and your fiancé will have finally cleared the air and asserted your independence as adults, and that's a step in the right direction.

DEAR ABBY: Some neighbors asked me to care for their pets while they vacationed in Europe for three weeks. The boy across the street was to do the first four days, but I was asked to do the bulk of the work. Although I was assured that all I

had to do was empty the litter box and feed the cats, I found an extensive list of chores in my mailbox the next morning. One cat has cancer; the other two also needed medication. The meds were complicated and had to be administered twice a day. The cats vomited profusely several times, and went to the bathroom every place except the litter box. I cleaned up after them, administered all the medications, and even consulted the vet at one point.

When my neighbors returned, they paid the boy \$30 for the four days he worked and didn't offer me one nickel. Worse, they paid him in front of me! I badly needed the money, but even if I didn't, don't you think they should have offered me something? I'm furious and am tempted to tell them off, but I don't want to sink to their level. What should I do?

— POOPER SCOOPER
QUEEN IN NEW ORLEANS
DEAR POOPER SCOOPER: You will ask your neighbor. And when they do, state clearly that you want to be compensated monetarily — and how much you expect to be paid.

DEAR ABBY: Every time we visit my in-laws, they feed my wife food that's laced with peppers. Abby, my wife gets sick when she eats peppers, and I gently remind them during the cooking process about this. Yet the little suckers still appear in everything that's offered to her.

Short of stealing all the peppers in the house before a meal is made,

what else can I do?

— UPSET IN HOUSTON
DEAR UPSET: Make sure your wife is well-fed before she visits the in-laws. And keep a stash of fruit and energy bars in the car if the visit is going to last more than three hours.

DEAR ABBY: Can you please define a "potluck" dinner? I thought it was a smorgasbord-type meal to which everyone contributed, and guests consumed whatever was brought. Lately, however, many hosts carefully plan the potluck with assigned dishes. I think that takes the fun out of it.

— ELIZABETH IN MANCHESTER, CONN.

ELIZABETH: My Webster's Collegiate Dictionary (10th Edition) defines "potluck" as "the regular meal available to a guest for whom no special preparations have been made," or as "a communal meal to which people bring food to share." And you're right; they can be fun — as long as the participants don't all bring the same thing. The hosts may be trying to ensure that the guests enjoy a balanced meal, with a certain number of appetizers, salads, entrees and desserts to choose from — and that seems like sensible planning to me.

Editor's note: Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, Calif. 90069.

Bridge

East dealer.
East-West vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ 5
♥ J 8
♦ A Q 10
♣ A Q J 10 8 5 2
WEST
♠ Q J 6 4 2
♥ A Q 2
♦ J 5 4
♣ 7 3
EAST
♠ A 10 3
♥ K 10 6 4
♦ 9 7 6 3
♣ 9 4
SOUTH
♠ K 9 8 7
♥ 9 7 5 3
♦ K 8 2
♣ K 6

The bidding:
East South West North
Pass Pass Pass 1♦
Pass 1 NT Pass 2♣
Pass 3♣ Pass 3 NT
Opening lead — two of spades.

Famous Hand

This deal occurred in the final round of the 1978 South American championship. Six of the eight countries in the event had been eliminated, and the finalists, Venezuela and Brazil, were playing a 60-board match to determine the title.

After 59 boards, the two teams were virtually tied, with Venezuela holding a slight lead. The outcome now depended on what would happen on Board No. 60, the hand shown.

At the first table, the Brazilian North-South pair, playing the Precision system, got to three notrump on the bidding shown.

West led the spade deuce, an encouraging card, and it is hard to blame East for winning the trick with the ace and continuing with the ten.

As a result, declarer scored 11 tricks and 460 points for Brazil.

At the second table, with Venezuela North-South, the bidding went:
East South West North
Pass Pass Pass 1C
Pass 1S Pass 3C
Pass 3 NT

West was Gabriel Chagas, the Brazilian star regarded by many as the best player in South America.

Because spades had been bid by South, the opening lead was certainly not clear-cut. Ordinarily a fast player, Chagas took three minutes before making his choice.

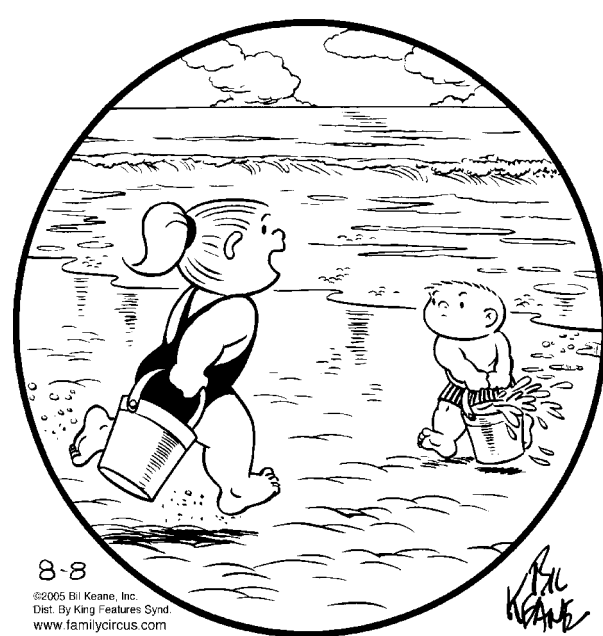
There is no doubt that his time was well-spent, since he came to exactly the right conclusion. The opening lead he selected was the ace of hearts!

Chagas' partner, Pedro Paolo Assumpcao, signaled for a continuation by playing the six. So Chagas played the queen and another heart, and the Venezuelan declarer lost the first five tricks for down one.

And that's how Brazil won the 1978 South American bridge championship.

Tomorrow: An inexpensive safety play.
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8-8
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Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Theater award
- 5 Parisian pal
- 8 Lean-to
- 12 Powdered-meat concoction
- 14 Pop flavor
- 15 Photo
- 16 Optimistic
- 17 Sheltered side
- 18 Drops a letter?
- 20 Hiawatha's carrier
- 23 Ball in a gym?
- 24 Satiated
- 25 Solar patch
- 28 Automobile
- 29 — noires (bug-bears)
- 30 Examine thoroughly
- 32 Kids' ballpark, maybe
- 34 Footproof

DOWN

- 1 Chances, for short
- 2 Stiller or Stein
- 3 —
- 4 Hire
- 5 Rue the run
- 6 Long March leader
- 7 Information super-highway
- 8 Be overly frugal
- 9 One of the gang
- 10 Differently
- 11 They last for hours
- 13 "Gotcha"
- 19 Privation
- 20 300, in old Rome
- 21 "Sad to say, ..."
- 22 Mrs. Nick Charles
- 23 Don
- 25 Ras Tafari's alias
- 26 Egg
- 27 Condition
- 29 Apt. advt. abbr.
- 31 Ball-bearing item
- 33 Standard
- 34 Upper house
- 36 Actress Moore
- 37 Send via UPS
- 38 Sported
- 39 — mater
- 40 Tall tale
- 43 Expert
- 44 Part of UNLV
- 45 Mel of Coopers-town
- 46 Afternoon social

Solution time: 24 mins.

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

Saturday's answer 8-8

THANK YOU FOR READING THE

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Cryptoquip

D Y U I B G B Q U O H B I B O
Q U H B N U J M A E W S Y K M J D S M N
T O S Q D N B N , E S M G K I W B Z
J B T W S A B - Z E G U D Q N ?

Saturday's Cryptoquip: HE WAS DESTINED TO BECOME A CATTLE RANCHER. HIS OWN MOTHER HAD NAMED HIM BRANDON IRONS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals I

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		