

DEAR ABBY: My son,

'Max," is 14. We have always

speechless because Max shaved his legs! Although I almost had a heart attack, I tried to remain calm. He says that all his friends are doing it, and that the girls like it. His father sat down with him and told him that men do not shave their legs. My son says it is the fashion, and hairy legs are not

Max is a wonderful young man. People always tell me how lucky we are to have such a terrific son. Am I overreacting? I'm confused and beginning to feel the generation gap.

> WORRIED MOM IN PUERTO RICO

DEAR WORRIED: Calm down and stop worrying. You have asked your son to trust you; now it's time to trust your son. Many perfectly normal males shave their legs — including athletes, bodybuilders, bicyclists, swimmers and people in the public eye. And I'm sure many girls do like it, because it shows muscle definition to better advantage.

P.S. It's only hair. It will grow

DEAR ABBY: When I was 18, I married my best friend, "Tom." A year later, we had a baby girl, "China Lynn." When she was about a year old, Tom and I realized that although we loved each other, we were not IN love. Tom moved next door so he could see our daughter every day. It has

Son's shaving legs rough on mom

Abigail Van Buren

Dear Abby

worked out great.

"Harry," the love of my life. Tom met a terrific gal, and the five of us get along like one big happy family.

Harry and I just had a new baby boy. We want Tom and his new wife to be our son's godparents. Alot of people are saying it's just not right, or that we should ask someone else. I feel fortunate that China Lynn has four parents who love her, and I want my son to have that, too. Tom and his wife already treat him like they do China Lynn. Is that wrong?

—HAPPY NEW MOM IN TROY, N.Y.

DEARHAPPYNEWMOM: I see nothing "wrong" with it. It may be unusual, but it only underscores the healthy, positive relationship you have with your former husband and his new wife. I say, go for it.

DEAR ABBY: I am a single, 29-year-old male who has met a wonderful 20-year-old woman, "Robin." Would it be wrong for me to date Robin because of the age difference? I have never been married and have no kids. I have a great job and a home. I really like her.

My 20s were wild. I loved them and did many amazing things. But now I am moving into my 30s, and Robin is barely starting her 20s. She hasn't experienced the bar scene or other things I who am I to cast the first bone?

10 8 7 6

7 10 8 4 3

♦ A 10 9

have moved on from. I still love When China Lynn was 5, I met to hit a sports bar and grab a beer, but the late nights out and the allnighters are over. Would it be wrong for me to deprive her of her chance to experience her 20s?

— OLDER GUY BLUES IN **CALIFORNIA**

DEAR OLDER GUY: You're asking the wrong person. Ask Robin if the bar scene would be more attractive to her than a serious relationship — and possibly marriage. If her answer is yes, then you're not too old for her; she is too immature for

DEAR ABBY: I recently attended a family funeral at which one of my relatives brought his dog. It wasn't a service dog, Abby, just a regular house dog. It was everywhere the family was — the funeral home, the service, even at the church dinner.

This relative lives in the same town where the funeral was held, so it wasn't an issue of leaving the dog at home for an extended period of time.

I understand that some people treat their dogs like people, but I think taking a pet to a funeral pushes the limits.

— DOGGONE UPSET IN

KANSAS DEAR UPSET: I agree. However, if the person who officiated at the funeral didn't object to the potential disruption, then

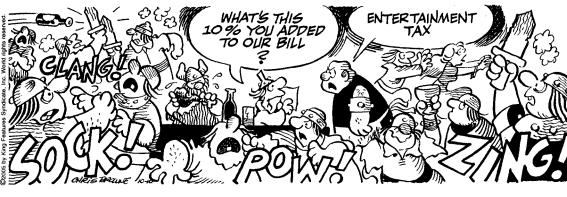
Garfield • Jim Davis







Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Blondie • Chic Young











Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott









MRS. DUNCAN, WOULD YOU ABSOLUTELY! STEP OUT OF THE ROOM WHILE I ASK JEREMY SOME QUESTIONS? RIGHT?







Sally Forth • Greg Howard

THANK YOU FOR

READING THE

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WEATHER

NEWS





Cryptoquip

B Q P L Z W L Q UOFAB

LWQOIOQZ MD RKIDB

AKOFX, O BEVVKBD OQ'B

P O X M OEV MOB LRRDZ. Saturday's Cryptoquip: MIGHT YOU CALL WORDS LIKE "TRANSGRESSION," "WICKEDNESS" AND "UNGODLINESS" SIN-ONYMS?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals P

Bridge

West dealer.

North-South vulnerable. **NORTH**

↑ A O 9 4 **♥**KQ65 ♦ Q 8 5 3

WEST **♥** J 9 7

♦ K ♣A K 10 8 6 2

SOUTH ♦ J 7 6 4 2

The bidding: West

South North East 2 🛧 Dble Pass 3 NT Opening lead — ten of clubs.

Famous Hand

Giorgio Belladonna, winner of 16 world championships and a member of the famed Italian Blue Team that dominated world bridge from 1957 to 1975, is a player of infinite re-

On top of his oft-demonstrated talent for rarely making an error of judgment—the trademark of all great players — Belladonna has an imagination that seemingly knows no bounds. He makes bids and plays on the spot that no one ever thought of before, and bridge literature is replete with his exploits.

Consider this deal where Belladonna, playing the Precision System, opened with two clubs (showing a minimum opening bid with long clubs) and found himself on lead against three notrump. The hand was played in the 1972 **London Sunday Times Invitational Pairs** Championship.

Belladonna made the extraordinary opening lead of the ten of clubs, and declarer (Terence Reese) could not withstand this lethal blow. He took the ten with the queen, entered

dummy with a heart and returned a low dia-East rushed up with the ace, catching his partner's king, but that didn't really matter. East

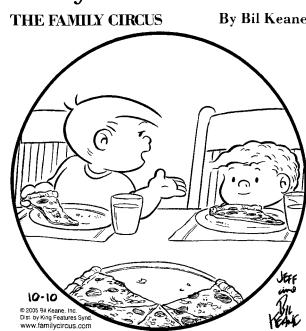
returned a club, and the contract went down At the other tables where the contract was three notrump, West led either his fourth-best club or a lower club, and in all these cases declarer made three notrump after dummy's nine

held the first trick. South lost at most two diamonds and two clubs.

Belladonna reasoned that Reese had the Q-J of clubs for his three-notrump bid, and in order to guard against the possibility that dummy had the singleton nine, he led the ten of clubs rather than a low club.

No truer arrow was ever shot! Tomorrow: You too can be a genius. (c)2005 King Features Syndicate Inc.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



"Daddy says the Italians invented pizza and Americans invented delivering it."

58 Cabinet

wood

59 Not Rep

1 Foolish

2 Thee

3 Shade

4 Drool

5 Plagia

rized

7 Demol-

8 Pictur-

ished

esque

Greatest

6 "The

source

DOWN

or Dem.

11 Volition

word

-Doo-

Dah"

21 Caffeine

doctor

27 By way of

29 Receive

Brad

34 Celestial

event

39 Winery

42 Sadistic

coin

45 Time of

46 Pavarotti

50 Frenzied

sash

solo

French

prosperity

employee

30 Seeks

32 Actor

37 Nap

44 Old

amounts

restitution

20 "Zip- -

22 "The

23 Full

tattooed

16 Oft-

Crossword

02000.	· • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
ACROSS	38 Perform-
1 Seaman's	ance
assent	40 — out a
4 Practices	living
pugilism	41 Ear-
9 Wield a	related
needle	43 Young
12 Fa's	women
neighbor	45 Pancake
13 Moderate	makeup?
purple	47 Equal
14 William	(Pref.)
Tell's	48 Man-
canton	mouse
15 Recapitu-	link
late	49 Magnifi-

cent

55 Back

to

54 Lubricant

comb

17 Wire measure 18 Eggs 19 Canine coat? **21** Fate 24 Sister of

Pygmalion 25 Columbus sch. 26 Gun the engine 28 Minimal change

31 Flaccid 33 Conk out 35 Jacob's twin 36 Oppositionists

56 Shape-9 Process shifter? server's **57** More, papers 10 A Great Manuel Lake Solution time: 24 mins.

51 Sapporo

52 Grecian vessel 53 Blue