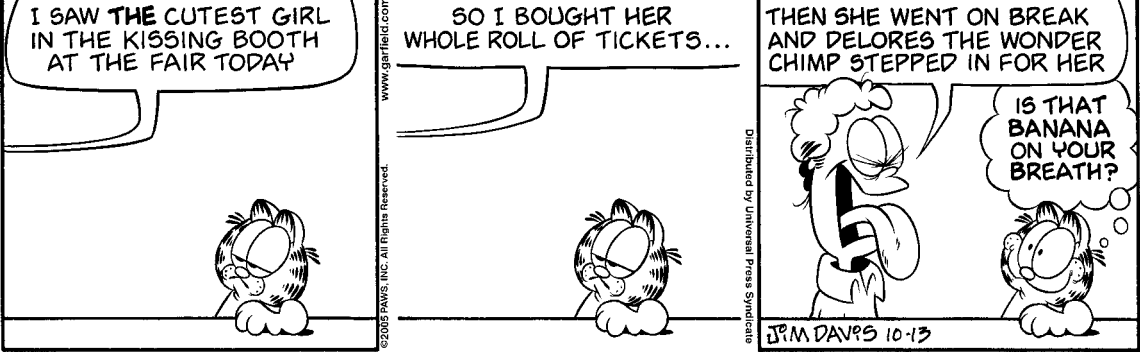


For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



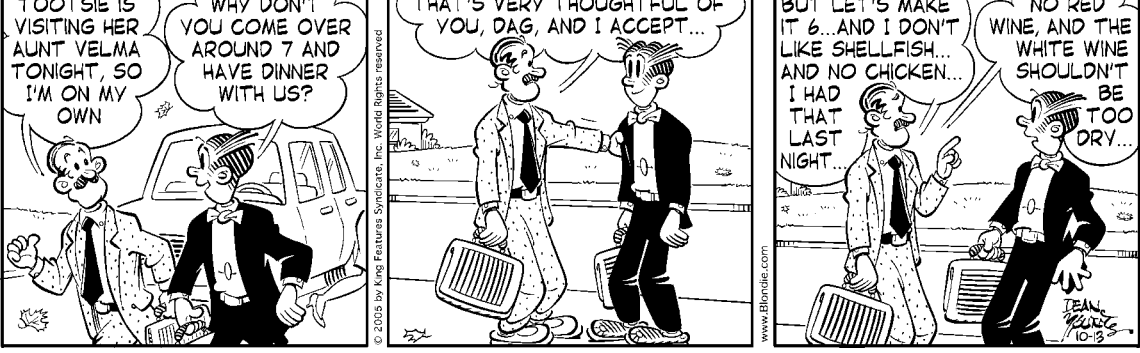
Garfield • Jim Davis



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



Scared military wives are not alone

DEAR ABBY: Boy, did I identify with the letter about the Army wife whose husband is being deployed to Kuwait. My husband of 25 years is in Iraq now. It's a short deployment; however, my reaction to it was unusual for me.



Abigail Van Buren
Dear Abby

that they both fear the same thing. Many times we don't want to do things, but do them we must. I agree with you, Abby; the woman should continue counseling.

At first, I took it in stride. But as the time approached for him to leave, I became anxious and depressed. I consulted a therapist, whom I'm still seeing. I had similar feelings as the wife's. I was scared out of my mind that my husband would not return and I, too, wanted a divorce. I'm still mystified about my reaction. He has been away before, but never in a place so dangerous. I, too, felt he was choosing the military over me and our kids.

sources and accurate information about his unit. It really does help to connect with other spouses who are going through what she's going through. If there is no one nearby, she can connect online through www.cinhouse.com. Another resource she should be aware of is www.militaryonesource.com (or 1-800-342-9647), where she can get answers to her questions and help 24/7. (This can include six confidential counseling sessions with therapists outside the military system.)

DEAR ABBY: I got the surprise of my life three years ago when my husband of 28 years asked for a divorce. Not long after the divorce became final, I ran into "Tim," an old high school classmate, and fell head over heels for him. He stays at my house every weekend and is on his own during the week.

The only thing that helped me when we left him at the airport was the knowledge that he really wanted to do this. I thought, if he gets killed, at least he will have died doing what he wanted.

— KATHIE HIGHTOWER

Last week I used Tim's e-mail account to send an e-mail. When pulled up the account, I discovered that for the past three years, the man I'm in love with has been seeing five other women! He reminded me that he has been a bachelor for 20 years and has many female acquaintances. He sees nothing wrong with going out with them, and sees one of them once a week.

— ALICE IN SOMERDALE, N.J.

DEAR ABBY: When my husband went to Vietnam for a year, the first thing I did was get a part-time job to keep me busy. I wrote him every day and sent tapes twice a week. Many times, we would leave the recorder running so he could feel like a part of the family when we discussed various "happenings" in the kids' and my day. I taped the kids' concerts and sent them with the comment, "If I have to sit through this, so do you!" All the guys got a kick out of it, and he was the envy of all.

I am extremely uncomfortable knowing that Tim has been seeing other women and wasn't up-front with me about it. I was under the impression that we had an exclusive relationship. Are my feelings unreasonable?

DEAR ALICE: That letter struck a chord with many military (and former military) wives. All of them had something important to contribute. Read on:

If she feels she needs a support group, she should contact other wives whose husbands are overseas. They can comfort each other. Also, instead of looking for people to help her, she should volunteer to help others less fortunate. She doesn't need a therapist as much as she needs a LIFE.

— SHOCKED IN OHIO
DEAR SHOCKED: If Tim lied to you about having an exclusive relationship, then you have reason to be angry. However, if he did not — and exclusivity was important to you — you should have made certain it was discussed.

DEAR ABBY: What that military wife needs to know is that her reaction to her husband's deployment is not uncommon. She is going through the anger/detachment withdrawal stages — anger at the military and at her spouse for being in the military. It is common to withdraw and/or argue just prior to deployment since it can be easier to be angry than to confront the pain and loss of departure. She's not the first military spouse to have these feelings.

— VENETA L., GREAT FALLS, MT.

Surely, if Tim was deceiving you, he wouldn't have given you his password. Now that you know his feelings about monogamy, it's up to you to decide whether you will tolerate an open relationship, because it appears that's all he's willing to have.

These hardships can seem easier to handle if the family knows they are not alone. The wife should connect with her husband's unit's Family Readiness Group to get helpful information about deployment re-

DEAR ABBY: Instead of distancing herself, that wife needs to talk about her fears to her husband. If she does, she may be surprised to learn

P.S. At the risk of sounding like a broken record, I suggest that you be checked for STDs.

Bridge

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ Q 10 5 3
♥ Q 7
♦ K Q 9 5
♣ K Q 6

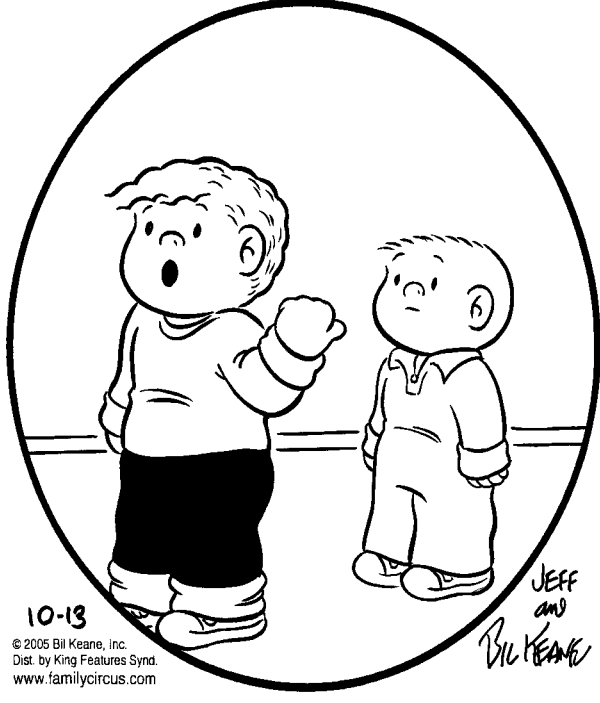
WEST
♠ —
♥ A K 10 6
♦ J 8 6 4 3 2
♣ 9 8 2

EAST
♠ K 9 8 7
♥ J 8 4
♦ 10
♣ J 7 5 4 3

SOUTH
♠ A J 6 4 2
♥ 9 5 3 2
♦ A 7
♣ A 10

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
4 ♠
Opening lead — king of hearts.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



"PJ talks in scribbles."

The End Justifies the Means

Deception plays a prominent role at the bridge table, just as it does in most other competitive endeavors. But while a declarer can practice deception with virtual impunity, the defenders run the risk of misleading their partners.

Nevertheless, there are occasions when a defender can judge that the only one who can fall victim to his ruse is the declarer. Here is a typical case.

Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Cobras' cousins
 - 5 Pipe-maker's material
 - 8 Wading bird
 - 12 Peregrinate
 - 13 Puncturing tool
 - 14 Waste allowance
 - 15 Vivacity
 - 16 Writer Buscaglia
 - 17 Wile E.'s supplier
 - 18 Amble
 - 20 Croatian, e.g.
 - 22 Urban carriage
 - 23 Cover
 - 24 Audible breath
 - 27 Tuna type
 - 32 — shoe-string
 - 33 XXXIV tripled
 - 34 "— Town"
 - 35 Secret-identity divulger
 - 38 Incite
 - 39 Prior night
 - 40 Two, in Tijuana
- DOWN**
- 2 Do mailroom work
 - 3 Poker hand
 - 4 Kiss
 - 5 Second audition
 - 6 Buy now, pay later
 - 7 Amorphous monster
 - 8 Type that's inclined to be stressful?
 - 9 Indirect and devious
 - 10 Cookbook compiler
 - 11 Wit-nessed
 - 19 Randy New-man's "I Love —"
 - 21 — carte
 - 24 5-centime piece
 - 25 Hostel
 - 26 Quail or grouse
 - 28 Commit perjury
 - 29 Whistle of a sort
 - 30 Bad hairpiece
 - 31 Prior to
 - 36 Loath
 - 37 Sun-speech
 - 38 Practical
 - 41 On the other hand
 - 42 Congregation's cry
 - 43 Waikiki winging
 - 44 "Wind in the Willows" character
 - 46 Depilatory brand
 - 47 Author Ferber
 - 48 Congeals
 - 51 Complete

Solution time: 25 mins.



Yesterday's answer: 10-13

West led the king of hearts, and East, sizing up the defensive prospects, saw that West could take two heart tricks, and that he himself had a sure trump trick. It was also clear that South had to have all three missing aces for his opening bid, which meant that the defense could not hope to take any tricks in the minor suits.

East therefore concluded that unless he could somehow score a second trump trick, South would surely make the contract. Since that was directly contrary to East's aim, he decided to take matters into his own hands by laying a trap for declarer.

Accordingly, at trick one he dropped the jack of hearts on his partner's king, then played the four when West cashed his ace, looking for all the world like a man who had been dealt a doubleton heart. When West continued with a third heart, declarer naturally ruffed with dummy's ten to prevent East from scoring a cheap overruff.

South was mildly surprised when East produced the eight of hearts at trick three, but that was nothing compared to his reaction at trick four when he led the three of trumps to his jack and West showed out. Declarer now realized he had been had, but there was nothing he could do about it. No matter how he continued, he had to lose two trump tricks and go down one.

Cryptoquip

R' O P X Q Z B V T I T R L L B Z Q
T H L B P H T T J . R L Z W W T L B
X N P X L T O B V T Z M J V P M M
O B P I P H R L N R T I P J T .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A PAIR OF DEMONS HAD THE SAME BUDDY, I SUPPOSE HE'D REALLY BE A MUTUAL FIEND.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: X equals T

THANK YOU FOR READING THE

COLBY FREE PRESS

YOUR LOCAL SOURCE FOR:
NEWS • WEATHER
SPORTS

155 W. 5th • 785-462-3963