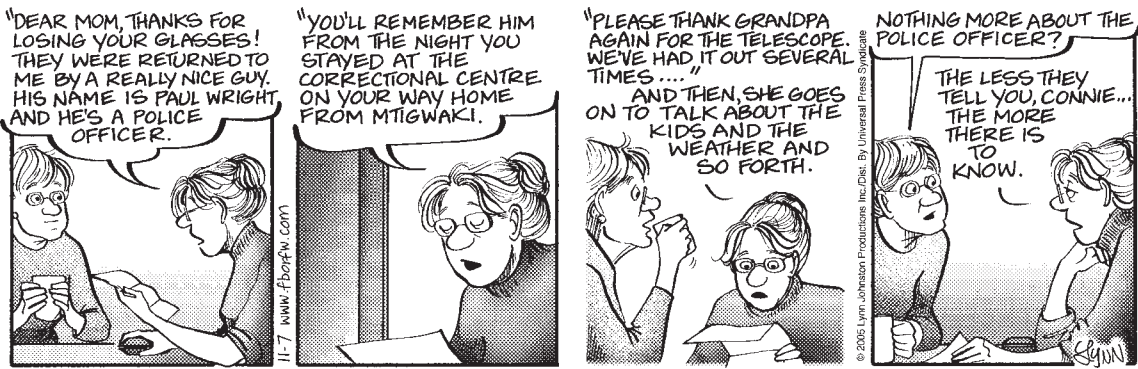
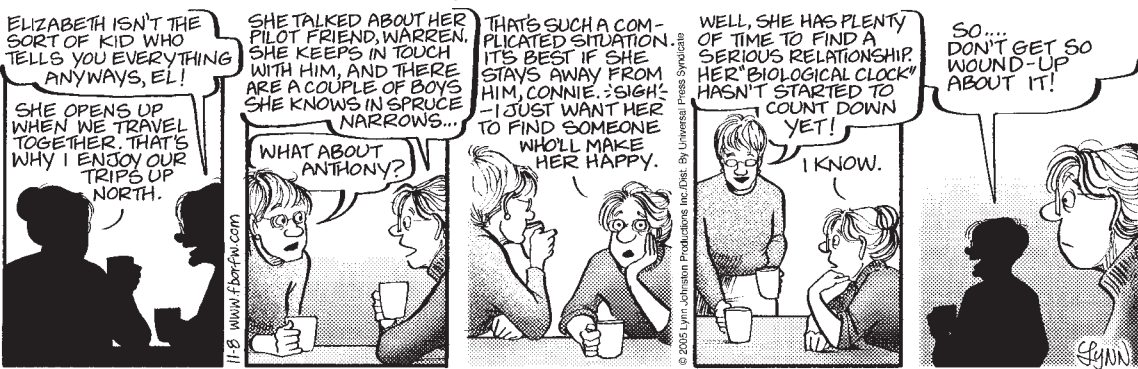


For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



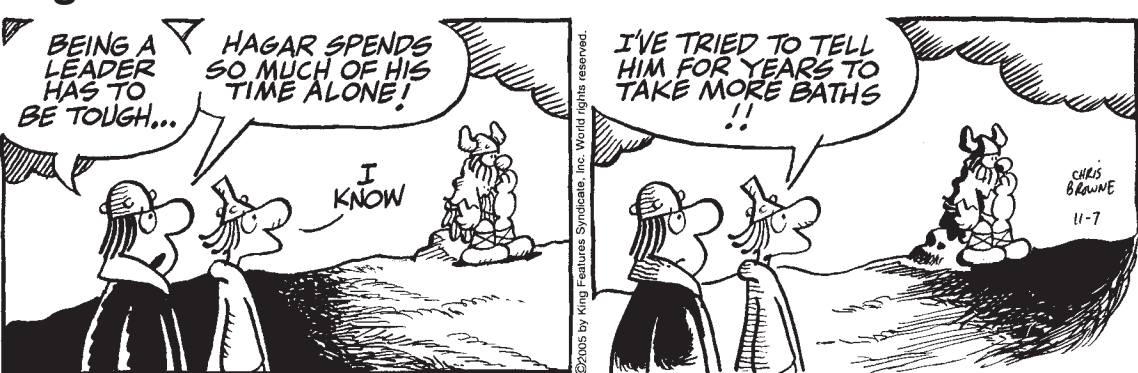
For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



Garfield • Jim Davis



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Blondie • Chic Young



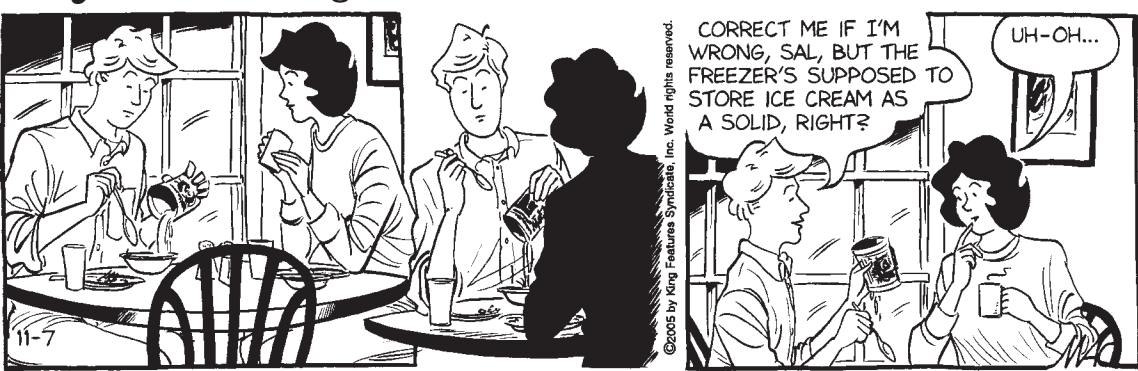
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Mom defends right to plan family



Abigail Van Buren

• Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I are in our mid-30s, married 13 years. We have four wonderful young sons, ranging in age from 11 to 2, and I'm expecting our fifth and final child.

Abby, you would not believe the number of people who feel free to make comments like, "You DO know how to prevent pregnancy, don't you?" or begin to lecture me about how much it's going to cost to send them all to college.

I am a college graduate, with a career that I love and for which I am well-paid. My husband is also college-educated and successfully self-employed. We are by no means short of money. I think these things get said because we are perceived as younger than we actually are. (People often assume we're in our mid-20s, but still it's rude and oftentimes hurtful.) Our children are healthy, happy and well-cared-for.

Please give me some advice, because I'm about to lose it with the next person who says such things to me.

— MOM WHO LOVES A LARGE FAMILY

DEAR MOM: There is no end of presumptuous comments that people make, trying to be funny, trying to be "helpful" or simply out of intrusiveness. Rather than losing your temper, try to handle them with humor. For those "wits" who say, "You DO know how to prevent pregnancy, don't you?" smile and reply, "Of course we do, but our dream has always been to have a large family." (What are they going to tell you — that you're wrong?) And to the person who lectures you about the cost of higher education, give a wink and grin, and say, "Thanks for pointing that out. When the time comes, we'll hit you up for a loan."

DEAR ABBY: I am a 14-year-old

DEAR ABBY: What do you think

Bridge

East dealer.

North-South vulnerable.

NORTH		EAST	
♠	Q J 10 7 4	♠	A 9 8 6 3
♥	A	♥	7 6 5
♦	7 6 5 3 2	♦	K 9
♣	Q 5	♣	10 6 4
WEST		SOUTH	
♠	2	♠	K 5
♥	9 8 3 2	♥	K Q J 10 4
♦	10 8 4	♦	A Q J
♣	A J 9 7 3	♣	K 8 2

The bidding:

East	South	West	North
Pass	1 ♥	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 ♦
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	3 NT

Opening lead — seven of clubs.

Famous Hand

The best players often disagree on how to bid or play a hand. But that is perhaps all to the good, since this lack of unanimity adds zest to the game.

Consider this deal played by France and the United States in 1971. When Mike Lawrence and Bobby Goldman were North-South for the U.S., the bidding went as shown and West led a club.

Goldman played dummy's queen, which won, and tried a diamond finesse, which succeeded.

He then returned to dummy with a heart, led another diamond and so scored nine tricks consisting of five hearts, three diamonds and a club.

When Pierre Jais and Roger Trezel held the North-South cards for France, the bidding and play were totally different. This time the bidding went:

East	South	West	North
Pass	2 H	Pass	2 S
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 D
Pass	3 NT		

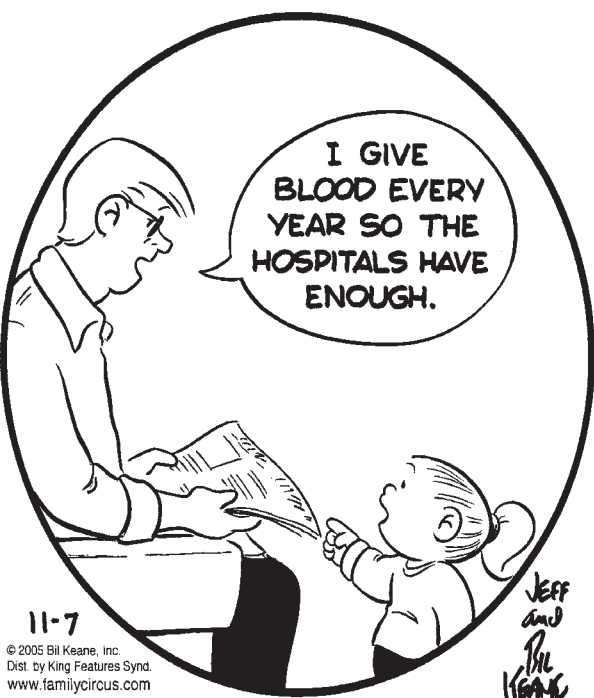
Again a club was led by West and won with the queen, but here declarer played a low spade from dummy at trick two. Bobby Wolff (East) rushed up with the ace and returned a club, and South quickly went down one for a combined loss to France of 700 points.

It seems clear that the French declarer misplayed the hand. True, he would have succeeded had West held the ace of spades instead of East — roughly a 50-50 chance. But as against that possibility, Goldman's method of play would bring home the contract if he either found East with the king of diamonds or West with the ace of spades — roughly a 3-to-1 shot in his favor.

Tomorrow: What can defeat me?

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



Crossword

ACROSS

1 "Humbly!"
4 Rascally sort
9 Confucian concept
12 Parisian pal
13 Penta-teuch
14 Hostel
15 Start of a patriotic song
17 Catch sight of
18 Suitable
19 Nudges
21 Long, loose overcoat
24 Cruise the 'Net
25 Tier
26 Fa's neighbor
28 Hybrid hounds
31 Merriment
33 Fond du —, Wis.
35 Siamese
36 Vote into office
38 Warsaw's land (Abbr.)
40 Sprite

DOWN

1 Emeril's expletive
2 Grant or Irving
3 Here (Lat.)
4 Dolts, jocularly
5 Rein
6 Illustrations
7 Former fillies
8 Kingdom division
9 Words after
10 From the top
11 Individual
16 Feedbag bit
20 Very dry, as in champagne
21 Impulse
22 Lounge about
23 Words after
24 9-Down
27 Once around
29 Body powder
30 Winnow
32 Reverbate
34 Cough-syrup ingredient
37 Armed forces
39 Pole dances?
42 Wrong
44 Regret
45 Gratify fully
46 In due time
50 Deposit
51 Scepter
52 Seesaw quorum
53 Nevertheless

Solution time: 24 mins.

DAN	USPS	WAF
IRE	NOAH	ABLE
SE	SLUE	SEA
CAP	ITALE	TER
TOR	LEE	
CREEP	MEL	LEI
HELM	BUY	NEWS
IVY	ARM	MODEM
EGO	YON	
PRISON	REL	FASE
LAST	ZONE	HOD
OGLE	EATS	ALI
TEES	DRA	BET

Saturday's answer 11-7

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Cryptoquip

XS V WRVY NRYR VQQLNRU

PL KYRKVYR JLSSRR LY

PRV, JLGQU ALG PMRH

OVA MR NVO WYGXH?

Saturday's Cryptoquip: IF EVERYBODY'S HALF-BAKED IDEAS CAUSE YOU TO GET ILL, I GUESS YOU HAVE NOTION SICKNESS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: R equals E