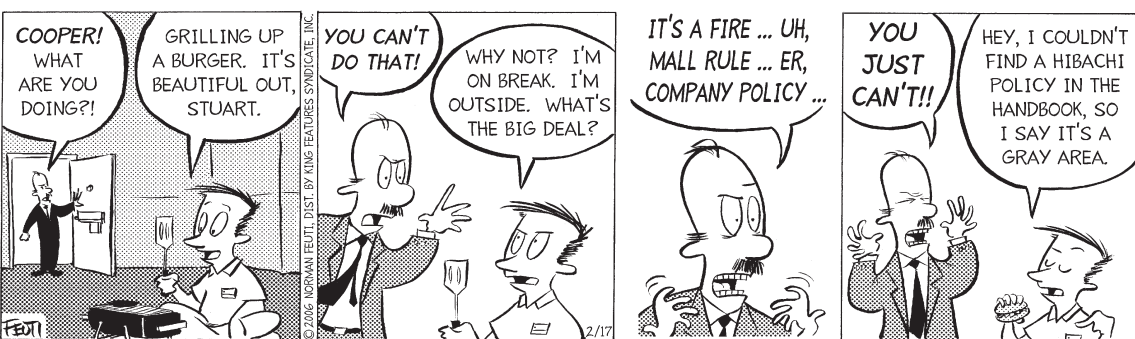


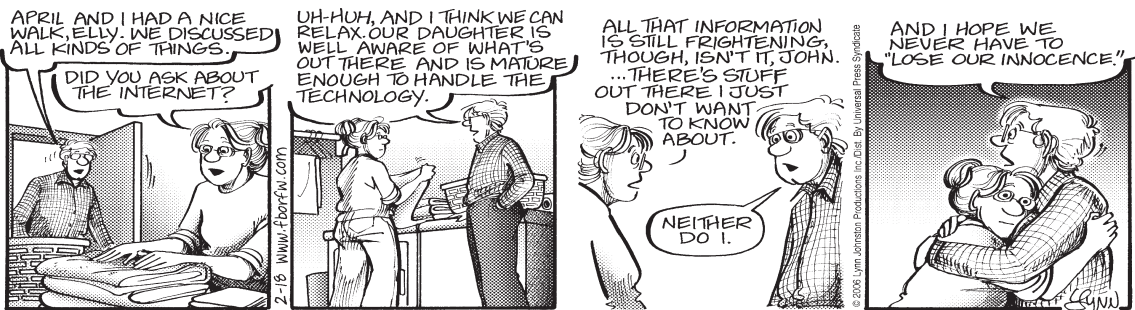
Retail • Norm Feuti (Sample)



Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott (Sample)



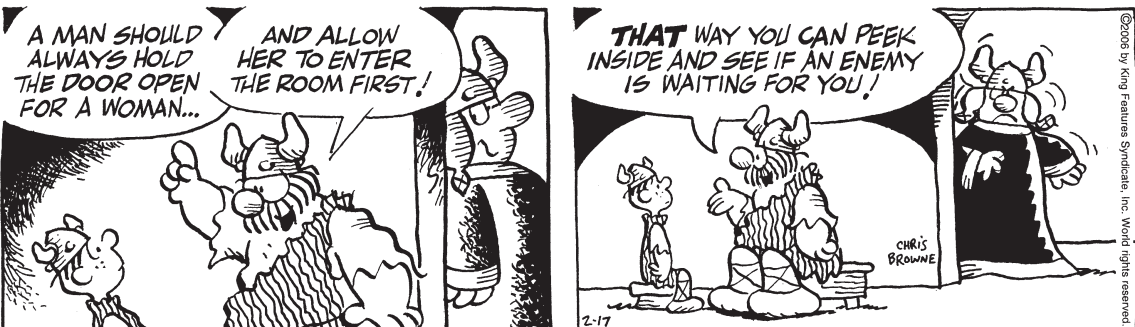
For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



Garfield • Jim Davis



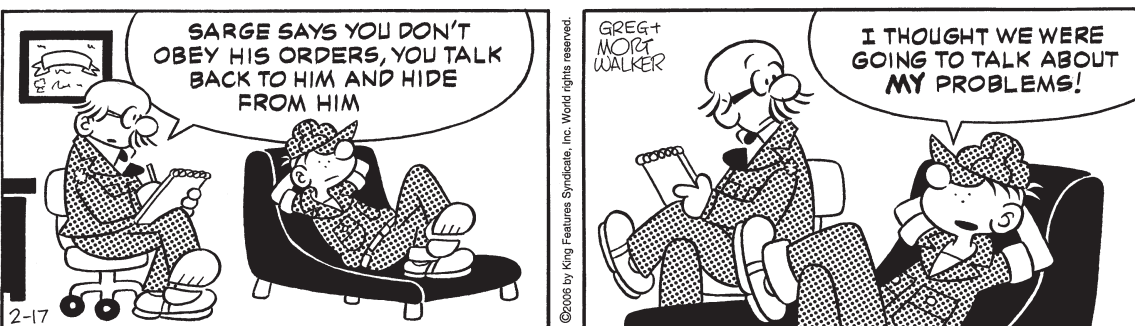
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Blondie • Chic Young



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Cryptoquip

PS SEVQDZ ZMOPRZDNPYM ELAILKC EXJQ LNBSI L
 HVEHERDZR BDU OMN XEW VBQDSIMZ FLVWMZ'K NMKI
 PZZ, P NJPUF XEW QDX KDZXAUIXQM XJJSKXBAK:
 JDYM QENPEU RPBUMRR.
 Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I'VE HEARD ACTRESS DICKINSON LIKES TO DELIVER PEOPLE MESSAGES SHE CALLS ANGIE-O-GRAMS.
 Today's Cryptoquip Clue: S equals F

"IFM QLC IZXVK."
 Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF FORMAL LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS CAN GET YOU ILL, I THINK YOU MAY HAVE MOTION SICKNESS.
 Today's Cryptoquip Clue: I equals T

Crossword

ACROSS
 1 Pouch
 4 Burr-Hamilton event
 8 Multi-colored
 12 Altar
 13 Bullets
 14 Black
 15 "Home Alone" director
 17 Paradise
 18 Hydrox rival
 19 Wear away
 20 Revealing fashions
 22 Detail, for short
 24 Flock of cuckoos
 25 Gathers
 29 Depot (Abbr.)
 30 Fusses
 31 Buy now, pay later
 32 Picnic side dish
 34 Butterflies do it
 35 Wanders about
 36 Ford or Hill

DOWN
 1 Of- bracketed word
 3 "Annie of "Okla-homa!"
 3 Architecture style
 4 Knighted women
 5 Protuberance
 6 Ostrich's cousin
 7 Section of L.A.?
 8 14th president
 9 — European
 10 Managed, with "out"
 11 Unit of force

Solution time: 25 mins.

A	S	E	A	S	A	P	I	S	L	E
L	A	P	P	A	N	A	R	E	I	N
A	M	I	R	T	I	C	A	R	T	S
R	E	C	O	P	Y	K	A	T	E	
			P	A	R	K	A	V	E	N
B	A	C	O	N	A	G	E	A	N	T
E	G	O	S	O	R	E	E	D	D	A
E	R	A	I	R	E	O	R	E	D	D
P	A	R	K	R	A	N	G	E	R	
			S	E	A	N	O	R	A	T
A	B	E	T	G	A	D	T	A	T	A
D	I	S	C	O	E	L	L	U	P	O
M	O	T	H	S	L	Y	M	E	E	T

Yesterday's answer 2-17

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	

ACROSS
 1 Collections
 5 Most of the 101 Dalmatians
 9 Emulate Johnny Appleseed
 12 Jog
 13 Largest of the seven
 14 Kyoto cummerbund
 15 Lecherous look
 16 Ring out
 17 Illuminated
 18 Fairy tale villain
 19 Wood-shaping tool
 20 Skilled wordsmith
 21 Wray of "King Kong"
 23 Wye follower
 25 Superficial coating
 28 Get there
 32 Saw
 33 Acrylic fiber
 34 Laments

DOWN
 1 Stash in the hold
 2 Therefore
 3 Turnpike payment
 4 Court figure
 5 Tropical fruit
 6 Second-hand
 7 Arcaded gallery
 8 Folk-song mule
 9 Unaccompanied
 10 Stage statuette
 11 Emmy winner for "Carmen on Ice"

Solution time: 27 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 2-18

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
32								33		
34				35				36		
		37						38		
39	40	41			42	43			44	45
48				49					50	
51				52					53	
54				55					56	

Family Circus • Bill Keane



Bridge

You are South, neither side vulnerable. The bidding has been:
 West North East South
 1♦ Dble 1♥ ?
 What would you bid with each of the following four hands?
 1. ♠ A72 ♥ J5 ♦ K1062 ♣ QJ92
 2. ♠ K873 ♥ KJ852 ♦ 9 ♣ A85
 3. ♠ QJ863 ♥ 4 ♦ A75 ♣ Q832
 4. ♠ 97543 ♥ 6 ♦ J52 ♣ AJ64

Bidding Quiz
 1. Two notrump. When partner doubles for takeout at his first turn to bid, he has at least the values for an opening bid. In replying to the double, you should attempt to show the degree of strength you have in much the same way as you would had he opened the bidding.
 Of course, East's bid relieves you of the obligation to respond, and with a poor hand you would pass. However, this 11-point hand might produce a game opposite a double, so a jump to two notrump (invitational) is in order. The absence of a heart stopper should not deter you from bidding notrump, as North is virtually certain to have some heart strength for his double.
 2. Double. Something is rotten in the state of Denmark. East is probably fooling around, and the best way to expose this is by doubling. If the bidding now takes a new turn, which is highly likely, you can next show your spades. Partner will thus learn that you have heart and spade length as well as the high-card strength necessary for such bidding.
 3. Two spades. There is a good chance of making game opposite a double, and you should let partner know this by jumping to two spades (invitational). Partner's double implies spade support, so the only question is how strong his hand is. If you evaluate your hand on a point-count basis, you have nine points in high cards and approximately three more points for your singleton heart. Some players would jump directly to four spades, which is certainly a reasonable alternative.
 4. One spade. You have ample strength for a voluntary response, so you might as well speak your piece right now. Though your spades are nothing to brag about, you have to make do with what you were dealt. Remember that you are leaning on an opening bid and implied spade support from partner.

South dealer.
 Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
 ♠ J 9
 ♥ 7 6 5 2
 ♦ Q 10 7 3
 ♣ K 5 4

EAST
 ♠ A K Q 8 7 5 3
 ♥ 3
 ♦ 9 4
 ♣ 10 9 2

SOUTH
 ♠ 4
 ♥ A 10 8
 ♦ A K J 8 5 2
 ♣ A Q 6

The bidding:
 South West North East
 1♦ Pass 2♦ 3♠
 5♦ Opening lead — king of hearts.

Never Give Up
 Occasionally, declarer is faced with what seems to be an utterly impossible assignment. If he keeps his composure, though, he can salvage more than a few of these seemingly hopeless contracts.
 Take this case where South is in five diamonds and appears to have three inescapable losers. With no discards available and no long suits to establish, he can hardly be blamed for feeling he is certain to go down one.
 But if declarer is from the school that doesn't give up easily, he will seek a way to hold his losses to two tricks. From the outset, he should be trying to visualize a possible distribution of the opposing cards that would allow five diamonds to be made.
 Given East's pre-emptive three-spade bid, South should feel that his chances are considerably better than would normally be expected. Accordingly, he wins the heart lead with the ace and draws two rounds of trumps, noting that East follows suit to both of them.
 Next come the A-K-Q of clubs, and when East follows suit to all three clubs, declarer's chances improve dramatically. Now, if East has the seven spades he would ordinarily hold for his bid, and also has the A-K-Q among them, South is certain to make the contract.
 So, after cashing the third club, declarer leads a low spade to dummy's nine. East takes the nine with the queen and, with only spades remaining in his hand, returns the ace — on which South discards the eight of hearts! East has no choice but to lead another spade, allowing South to discard his ten of hearts while ruffing in dummy, and the "impossible" contract comes home.

Cryptoquip

PS SEVQDZ ZMOPRZDNPYM ELAILKC EXJQ LNBSI L
 HVEHERDZR BDU OMN XEW VBQDSIMZ FLVWMZ'K NMKI
 PZZ, P NJPUF XEW QDX KDZXAUIXQM XJJSKXBAK:
 JDYM QENPEU RPBUMRR.
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