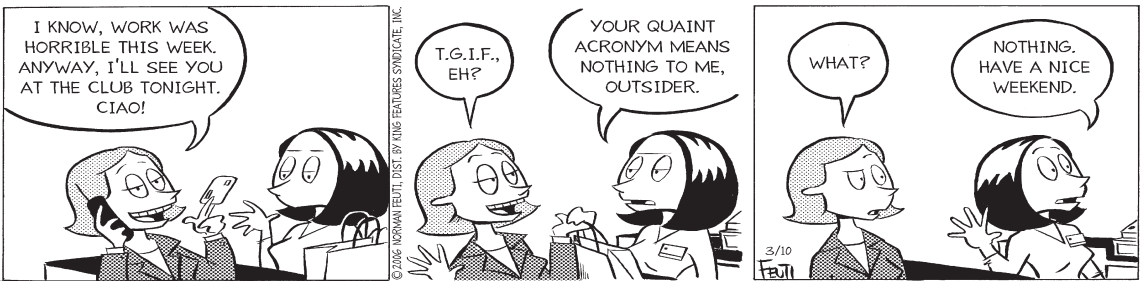
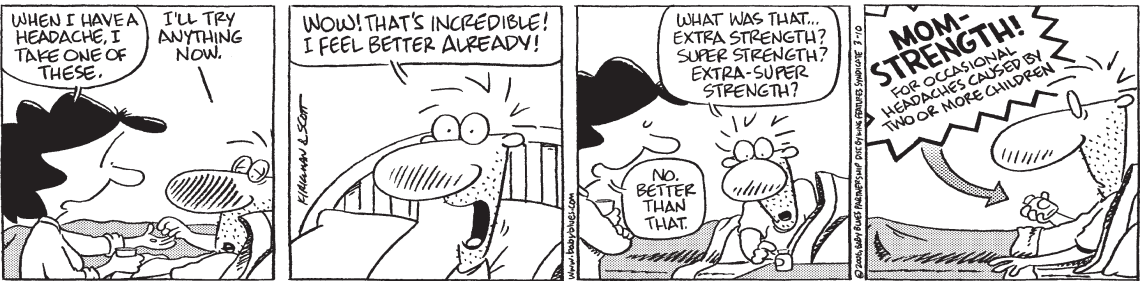


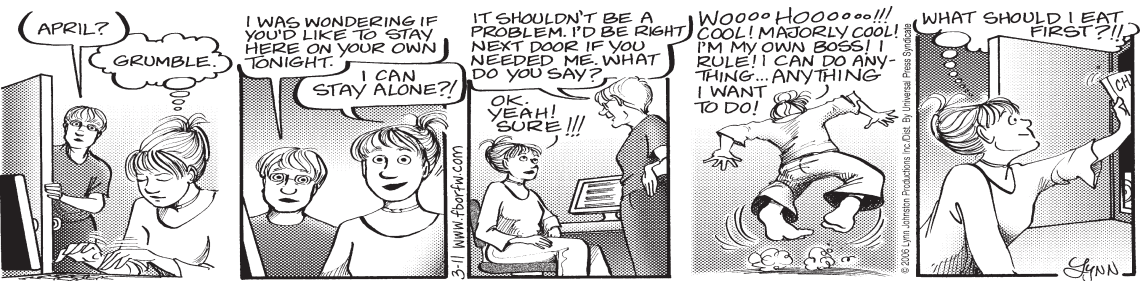
Retail • Norm Feuti (Sample)



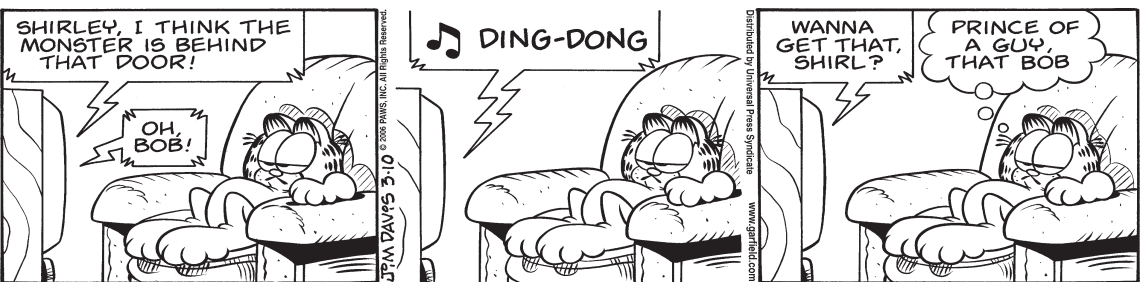
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott (Sample)



For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



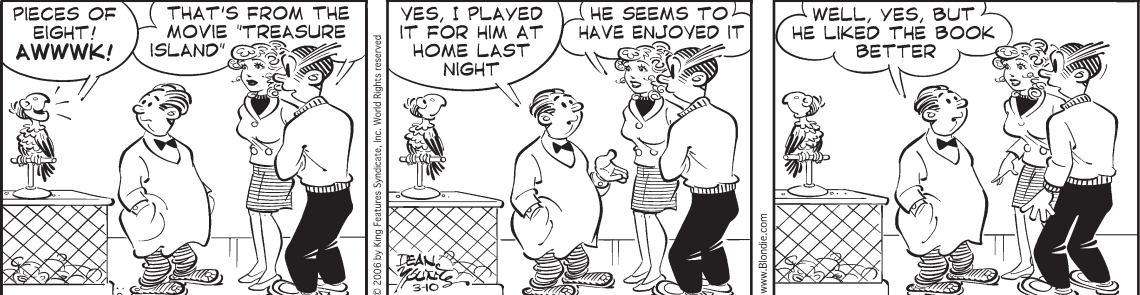
Garfield • Jim Davis



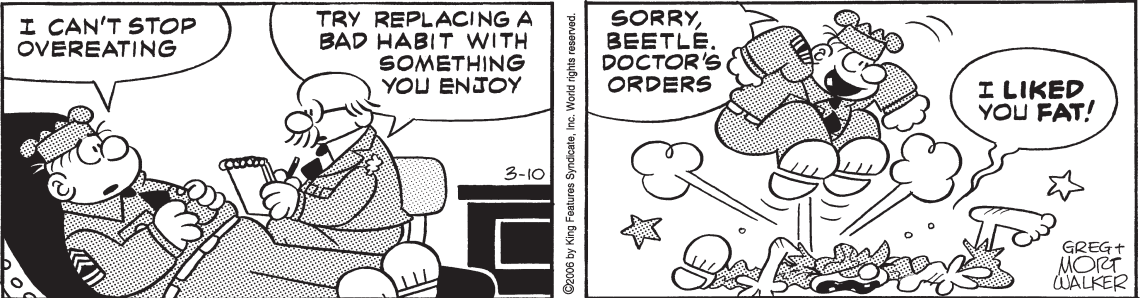
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



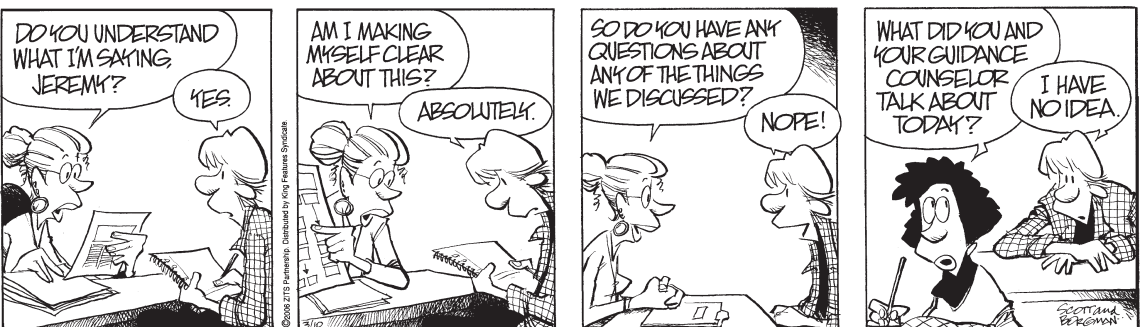
Blondie • Chic Young



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Cryptoquip

IVZOPQM PMVZP NOZPI O VZFD QOIBW-UOFEFONBDK
XKYOZWPMWOZ GOKRXPVM. UFJUXF PCDYF, B EIUUJEF
NVHH, W RKVII XV FQKHG WZFM VJIXP UOJLCLXM
ZOYV XVM FOMO HQPP. QCNJO WZF YCD-YCD.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF YOU'RE TRYING YESTERDAY'S CRYPTOQUIP: SENATOR TRENT
TO WATCH YOUR WEIGHT, IT WOULD BE WANTS A HUMANITARIAN DAUGHTER. WELL,
BENEFICIAL NOT TO EAT ON FRY DAY. I GUESS HE COULD NAME HER CARA LOTT.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: X equals H Today's Cryptoquip Clue: U equals P

Crossword

ACROSS 1 Calabash or Butterworth 4 Winter need 8 Nibble 12 Cartesian conclusion 13 One of HOMES 14 Unyielding 15 Grow rapidly 17 Requisite 18 Cuban export 19 Journal 21 Turn right 22 Nap 26 Furnish with an income 29 Adversary 30 Princess's insomnia cause 31 Exemplar of craziness 32 Anti 33 Talk a blue streak? 34 Pie ingredient?

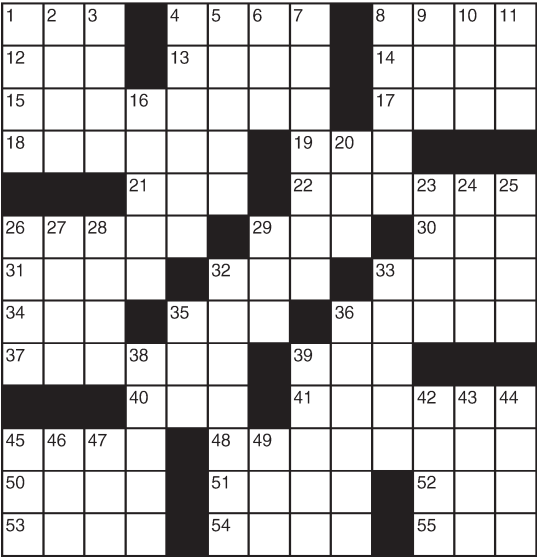
35 Clinton's instrument 36 Like some models 37 Schulz pooch 39 Multitude 40 Greek consonant 41 Aviatrix Earhart 45 Float on air 48 Nose-in-the-air 50 Farm fraction 51 Green land 52 Pub request 53 Cherished 54 Coasted 55 Sleep phenom

DOWN 1 Uncate-gorizables (Abbr.) 2 Hindu royal 3 Urban pall 4 Ancient language 5 Wipe out 6 Have a bug 7 Rats out 8 Dog in a kids' song 9 Rage 10 Sock part 11 Remnant 16 Cart 20 Inseparable 23 Piece of work 24 Joie de vivre

25 Uncomplacated 26 "Desire Under the —" 27 It may be a proper subject 28 Extinct Mauritian 29 TV network 32 Trusty horses 33 Old-time medicinal cigarette 35 Resort 36 Closed on opening night 38 "Animal House" role 39 New Zealand native 42 Story teller? 43 Gilligan's home 44 Attention getter 45 Bankroll 46 Expert 47 Monk's title 49 Zilch

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterday's answer 3-10



ACROSS 1 Winning 6 Means of pouring 12 OK for farming 13 Astronomers' muse 14 Take a walk 15 Spoiled 16 Choir's rendition 17 Pinnacle 19 Egos' counterparts 20 Sailing vessel 22 Verb for Popeye 24 "___ my brother's keeper?" 27 Ovine remarks 29 Pianist Peter 32 12th president 35 Dryad's dwelling 36 Paradise 37 Still 38 Become one

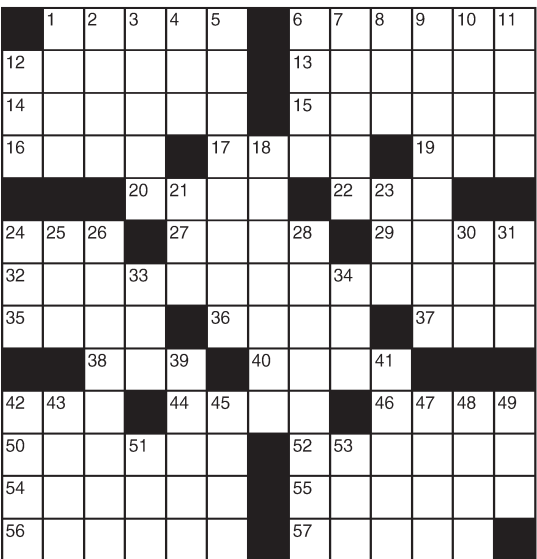
40 October stone 42 Hot tub 44 Toyota subcompact 46 Malaria symptom 50 It could be hot! 52 Table linen 54 TV news hour, often 55 Mad 56 They get to the heart of the matter 57 Layers

DOWN 1 Dilettantish 2 Injury 3 Black wood 4 The whole shooting match 5 Just a little place in the country 6 Foolproof 7 Sub 8 Feedbag morsel 9 Inopportune 10 Even 11 Without shade 12 Blond 18 Molding material

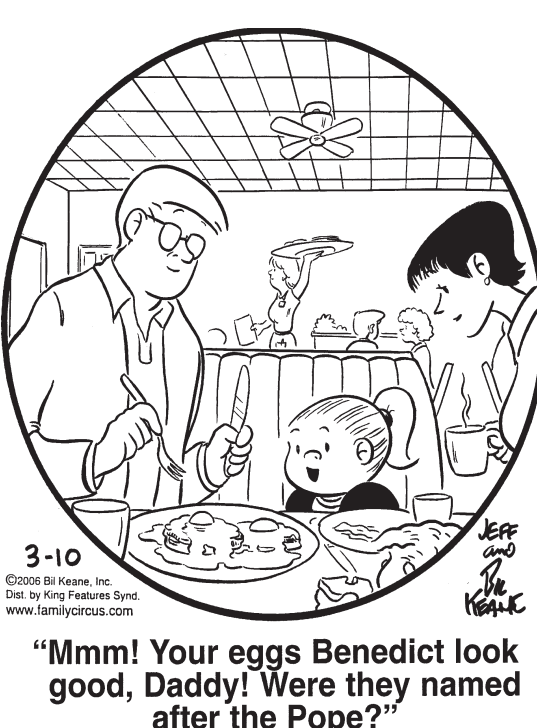
21 Sahara robe 23 Randomly chosen 24 Anti-retroviral drug (Abbr.) 25 Scratch 26 Summer-time refresher 28 Hurry 30 Caviar, essentially 31 Scrap 33 Haw preceder 34 Literary collection 39 Dissuade 41 Discontinuance 42 Detail, briefly 43 Horse play? 45 Pen pals? 47 Paraphernalia 48 Grecian vessels 49 CBS logo 51 "Hail, Caesar!" 53 Blackbird

Solution time: 27 mins.

Yesterday's answer 3-11



Family Circus • Bill Keane



Bridge

Partner bids Three Hearts, neither side vulnerable, and the next player passes. What would you bid with each of the following five hands?

1. ♠ J963 ♥ A5 ♦ A74 ♣ QJ82
2. ♠ AQ875 ♥ 72 ♦ KQ63 ♣ A10
3. ♠ 842 ♥ J843 ♦ 10 ♣ A9852
4. ♠ AJ742 ♥ 96 ♦ AKQ82 ♣ A
5. ♠ AQ9862 ♥ 7 ♦ 974 ♣ A84

Bidding Quiz

1. Pass. Partner's three-heart bid describes a hand with a strong seven-card suit that does not make the grade as a one-bid by ordinary standards. The purpose of the three-bid is to disrupt the opponents' bidding and prevent them from reaching their optimum contract.
2. Four hearts. Here, your three- to four-trick hand combined with partner's will probably produce 10 tricks. You should have no compunction about raising with two small trumps, because partner has an excellent suit. If he has as little as K-Q-J-x-x-x, game is no worse than 50-50.
3. Four hearts. This might seem strange, since you have only five high-card points, but this time the raise to four is essentially a strategic maneuver. Realistically, you have little hope for 10 tricks, but you raise to game anyway in an effort to deceive the opponents into thinking you have a much stronger hand.
4. Six hearts. No guarantees go with this bid, but slam prospects are nonetheless excellent. About all your partner needs to have a good play for slam is seven hearts to the K-Q-J. It would be overly pessimistic to let the bidding die under six hearts.
5. Pass. Game is out of the question, and three spades (forcing) is likely to make matters worse. It must be borne in mind that partner has announced a poor hand suitable only for hearts, so why look for trouble?

North dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A J 7 3
♥ 5 2
♦ 10 5 4
♣ A Q 9 8

WEST
♠ 5 2
♥ 10 8 7 6 3
♦ Q 2
♣ 7 6 5 4

EAST
♠ K 6
♥ K 9 4
♦ K J 9 8 7
♣ K 10 3

SOUTH
♠ Q 10 9 8 4
♥ A Q J
♦ A 6 3
♣ J 2

The bidding:
North Pass 3 ♠
East 1 ♦ Pass
South 1 ♣ 4 ♠
West Pass

Opening lead — queen of diamonds.

The Science of Deduction

It's usually easy for declarer to play a hand perfectly if he's allowed to see all four hands. But at the table, declarer sees only two hands. Nevertheless, he is expected to achieve the best result possible on virtually every hand he plays.

There are almost always clues to point declarer in the right direction. These clues might come from the bidding, the play or a combination of both. For example, take this deal where South gets to four spades and West leads the diamond queen.

If declarer plays strictly from force of habit, he goes down one. He wins the diamond and takes a trump finesse. East wins, cashes two diamonds and returns a heart. Declarer finesses successfully but winds up a trick short when he later attempts a club finesse that fails.

The correct line of play is not really difficult. South sees 25 high-card points between his own hand and dummy, and also notes West's queen-of-diamonds lead. It certainly seems reasonable to assume that East, for his opening bid, holds the four missing kings, and declarer should adapt his method of play accordingly.

South should win the diamond lead with the ace and play a trump to the ace, deliberately rejecting the finesse. He then leads a heart to the jack and a club to the ace (again rejecting a finesse), followed by a heart to the queen.

With everything going along smooth as silk, declarer now cashes the ace of hearts, discarding a diamond from dummy, and his work is done. He loses only a spade, a diamond and a club, and he has the satisfaction of knowing that he played the hand as though all 52 cards were faceup on the table.

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3-11

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