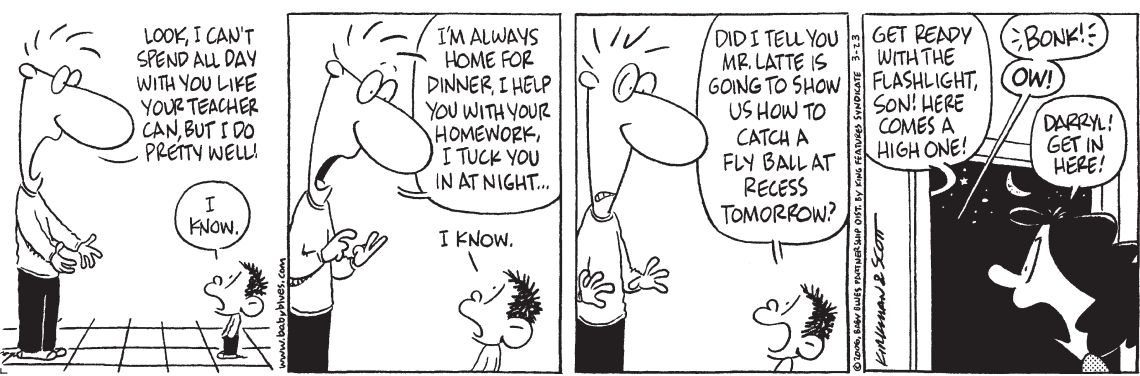


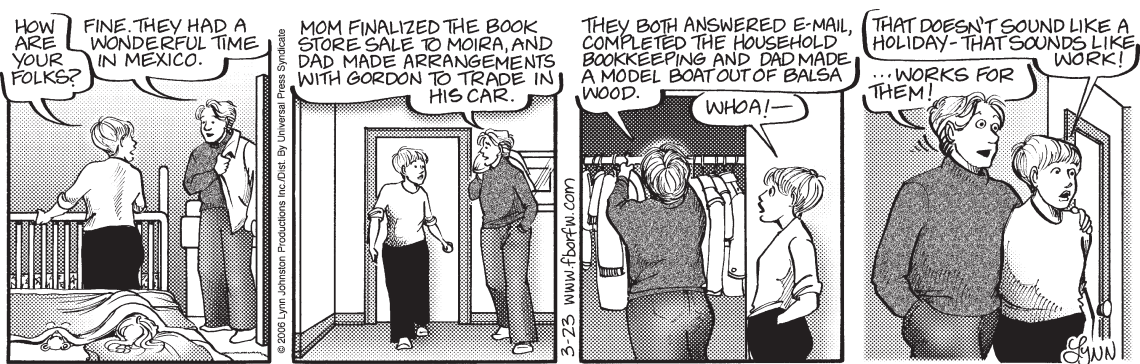
Retail • Norm Feuti (Sample)



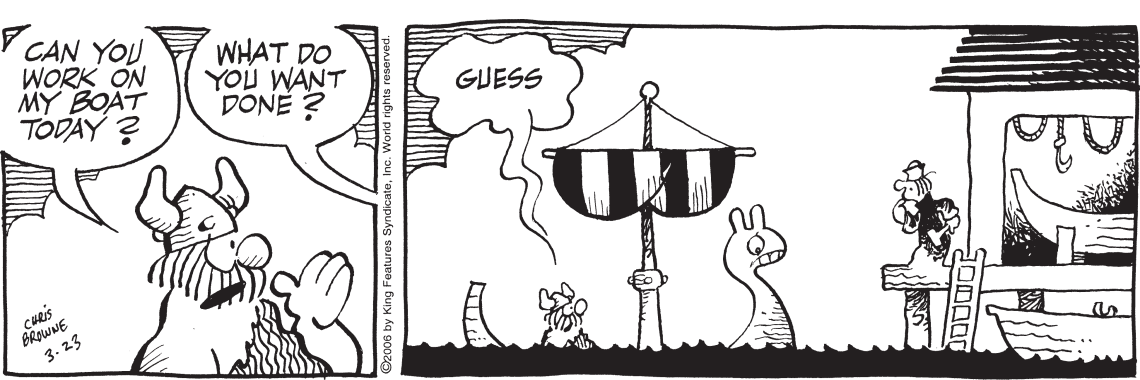
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



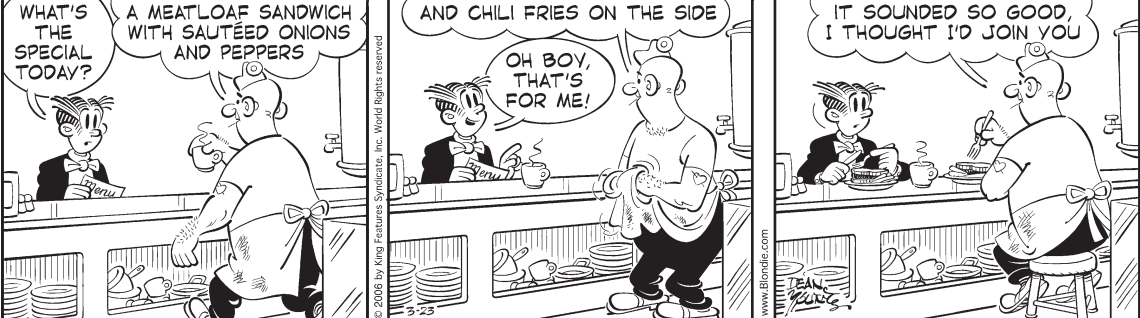
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



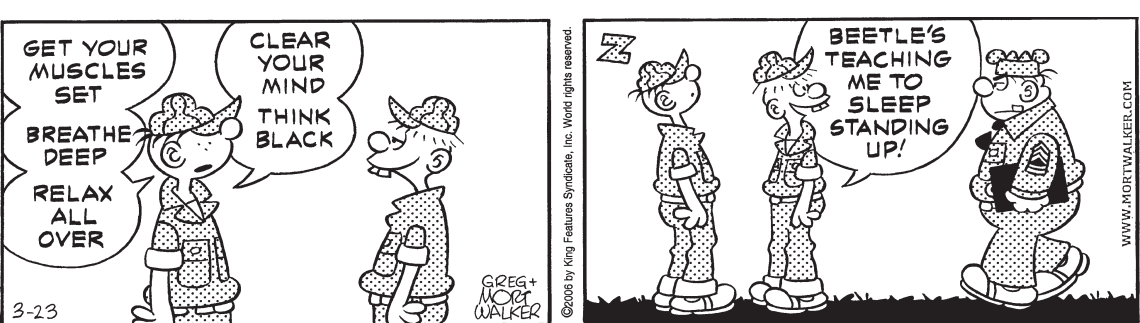
Garfield • Jim Davis



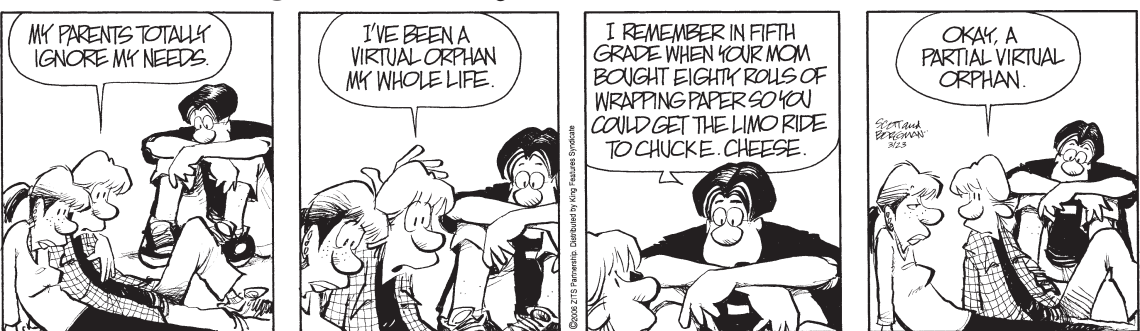
Blondie • Chic Young



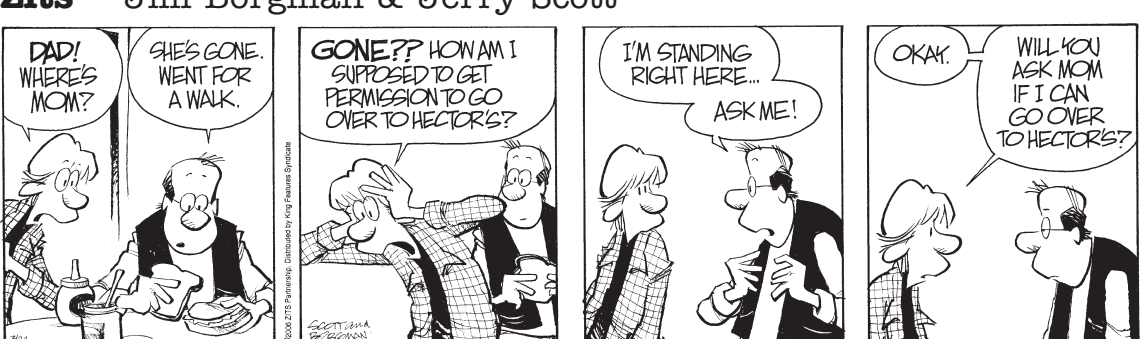
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



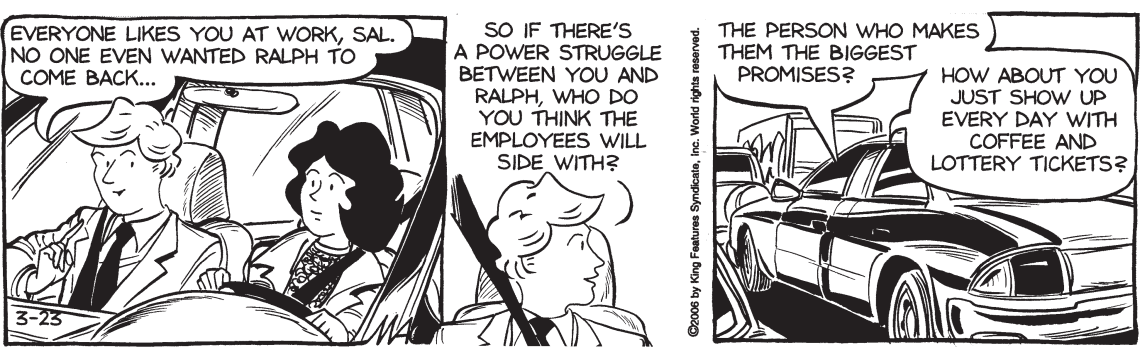
Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Victims who report crime help police

DEAR ABBY: I'm a deputy sheriff. Last week, I was in a department store outside my jurisdiction and overheard a conversation between two of the clerks. One of them had her car broken into the night before, and several valuable items and her house key had been stolen. This woman said she didn't call the police because there was nothing they could do.

I identified myself as a deputy and told her she should contact her police department immediately for the following reasons:

(1) She was a victim of a crime. Her house key was taken by someone who had already demonstrated that he or she was a criminal. If the perpetrator came back and robbed her house, or worse yet, harmed her, the police would have more to go on to solve that crime. (I also advised her to have her locks changed immediately.)

(2) Her car may not have been the only one broken into. If a pattern was developing, the police could increase patrols in her area. But they couldn't know to do it if the incident went unreported.

(3) In the course of serving search warrants or making other arrests, we often find property that obviously doesn't belong to the suspect. (After all, who owns multiple TV sets, stereos, DVD players, digital cameras, etc.?) But if nobody reports a theft, we have no way of knowing whose property it is.

Without that knowledge, we can't return property to its rightful owner, nor can we charge the suspect with additional crimes.

(4) Suspects often pawn what they steal. Our detectives regularly check pawn shops for items that have been reported stolen and can recover them for the owner as well as pay a visit to whoever sold them.

Bridge

East dealer.

East-West vulnerable.

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

The bidding:

East	South	West	North
Pass	Pass	Pass	1 ♦
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 NT
Opening lead — seven of hearts.			

Pomp and Circumstance

Perhaps Hegel was right when he said one learns from experience that one does not always learn from experience.

Consider the present deal from a rubber bridge game. South was in three notrump, and West led his fourth-best heart. Declarer took the first trick with the ten, then re turned a low heart, winning with dummy's king after West followed with the nine.

South next cashed the K-Q-A of diamonds, but, unfortunately, the jack did not fall. As a result, declarer finished down one, losing three spades, a heart and a diamond.

The outcome seems very normal, since South played the hand pretty much the same way most other declarers would have played it. But the fact is that South was decidedly out of order when at trick three he staked everything exclusively on a favorable diamond division. Granting that the diamond suit would — from previous experience — seem the natural suit to attack at this point, declarer's correct play at trick three was the eight of spades!

After scoring the first two hearts, he was gazing at eight sure tricks, and should have been looking for the best way of acquiring a ninth. The spade lead would do exactly that, guaranteeing that after the defenders' ace, king and jack were forced out, South's ten would inevitably become trick number nine.

No distribution of the opposing cards can prevent this from happening if a spade is led at trick three, regardless of how much it goes against the grain to make such a play. It is true that declarer might fail to make four notrump by not playing diamonds first, but that is a very minor consideration where assuring a game is concerned.

Yes, maybe Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel really knew what he was talking about.

Cryptoquip

IQUY RQU IUOONYK JVZRX

TUTFUZZ IUZU GHTJURNYK,

CHTUFHOX GZNUO "TVX

RQU FUCR TVY INY!"

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF AN OLD GOLD PROSPECTOR BECAME SPEECHLESS, MAYBE HE SIMPLY HAD NOTHING LEFT TO ASSAY.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: R equals T



Abigail Van Buren

• Dear Abby

Many crimes have been solved in this manner.

Please, Abby, urge your readers to report all crimes of which they are victims.

Even if it appears the police are taking little action, they are, in fact, doing far more than is readily apparent.

— DEPUTY PETER N. SPAGNOLO, PAYETTE, IDAHO

DEAR DEPUTY SPAGNOLO: Your message is important, and I'm printing your letter as written with no editing.

Although there is no guarantee that anyone won't become a crime victim, we do not have to take it in silence. As my third-grade teacher used to say, "The policeman is your friend." If we do not report a crime when one has been committed, then the bad guys have already won.

DEAR ABBY: I am 22 and the mother of four beautiful children, ages 3 and under. Recently, my husband confessed that he's had several affairs while I was pregnant with our last daughter. I thought I could get over it, but it's difficult because he gave me an STD.

He thinks I should forgive him and forget it. We are separated now because of this, and he wants to come home. I keep saying no because he hurt me so badly. I have started divorce proceedings, but some of my family think it's a mistake. They think because we have

four kids that I need to try to work things out with him.

I know I'll never be able to trust him again or forgive him. Every flare-up is a reminder. What would you do if you were me?

— STAY OR LEAVE IN

MISSOURI
DEAR STAY OR LEAVE: I'd shelve the divorce for a while and see if intensive marriage counseling could help to overcome your anger and disappointment. Please understand that other couples have made it past a crisis like the one you are experiencing. Your husband made a huge mistake, but he obviously wants to make amends. Only if counseling didn't work would I end the marriage.

DEAR ABBY: When taking advantage of a restaurant's offer of "buy one meal, get one free," what is the proper way to calculate the tip? Should a percentage be calculated on the price of the first meal only, for which the diners are actually billed, or for the value of the two meals combined? Also, what is the current tip percentage for adequate service? (A free dinner is riding on your answer!)

— STUCK FOR THE TIP

DEAR STUCK: The current tip percentage for "adequate" service in a restaurant is 15 percent. And, when taking advantage of the "buy one, get one free" offer, you should calculate the tip as though you had actually paid for the two meals. (It's called not stiffing the server.)

Editor's note: Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



Crossword

ACROSS	44	3	27
1 Tailor's target	Pot's slander victim	Put off	Tarzan's son
4 Greek cheese	Route	Looseleaf paper	Vacationer's correspondence
8 Head light?	50 Bracketed word	6 Small bits	30 Maleficence
12 Big bother	51 Hydrox rival	7 Tweak the	31 Moss or Winslet
13 Mosque figure	52 Proof of mailing	8 Peaceful	33 Peeper's place
14 Surrounded by	56 Authentic	9 Beyond control	35 Erstwhile acorn
15 Closing piece of music	57 MP's quarry	10 Grown-up nits	38 Wield a needle
17 Crazy	60 Pivot	11 Stench	40 Mortar's partner
18 Up to	61 Hide-away	16 Gratuity	43 Half a 1960s quartet
19 Suppressed laugh		20 Annoy	45 Allen or Robbins
21 Burst		21 Cheat at hide-and-seek	46 Harbor city
24 Arid		22 Fairy-tale villain	47 Neighborhood
25 Swelled head		23 Pooch	48 Shipbuilding wood
26 Plagiarize			49 Long, mournful cry
28 Ruble fraction			53 Old French coin
32 Sea flock			54 Caviar, basically
34 Sticky stuff			55 Family

LIT	BEEF	RASH
ADO	OREO	OLIO
MEW	LARRY	BIRD
BASIS	DEB	

PATTERED	RARE
OBTRAGAS	MOW
DUMB	BESTREWS
STEAK	THOU
RES	ONION
LARRY	KING
ALOE	AGEE
BAWL	TOTS
	SKY

Yesterday's answer 3-23

