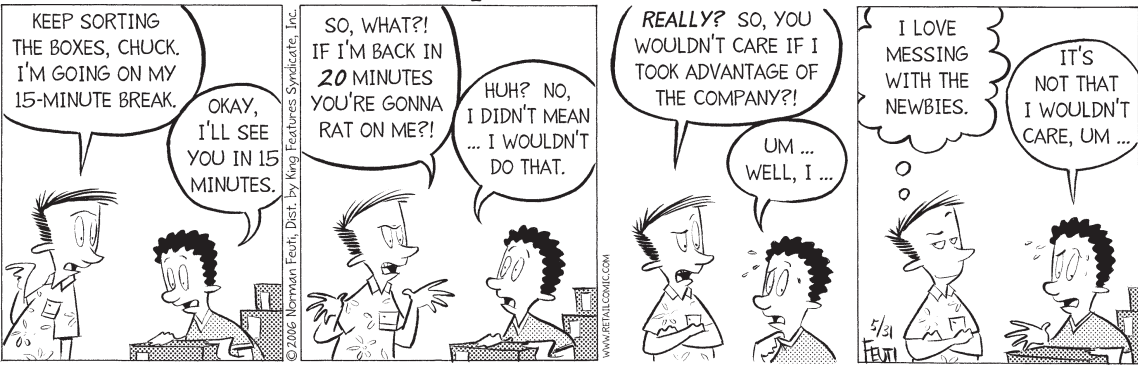
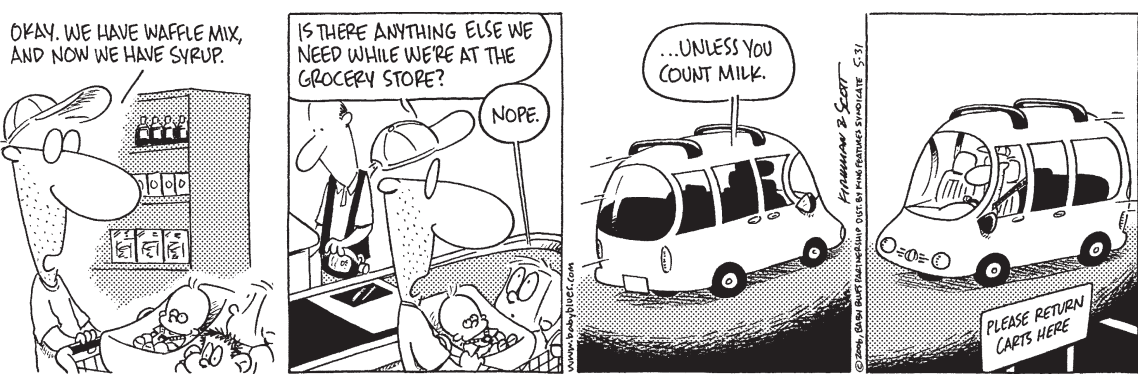


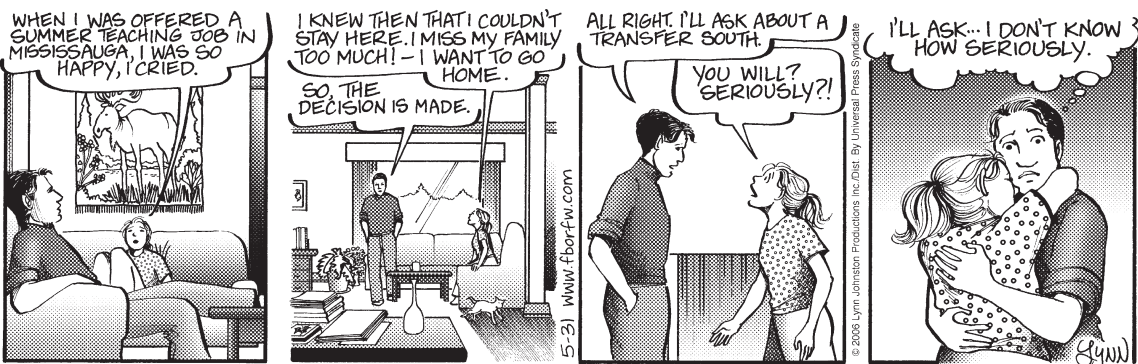
Retail • Norm Feuti (Sample)



Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



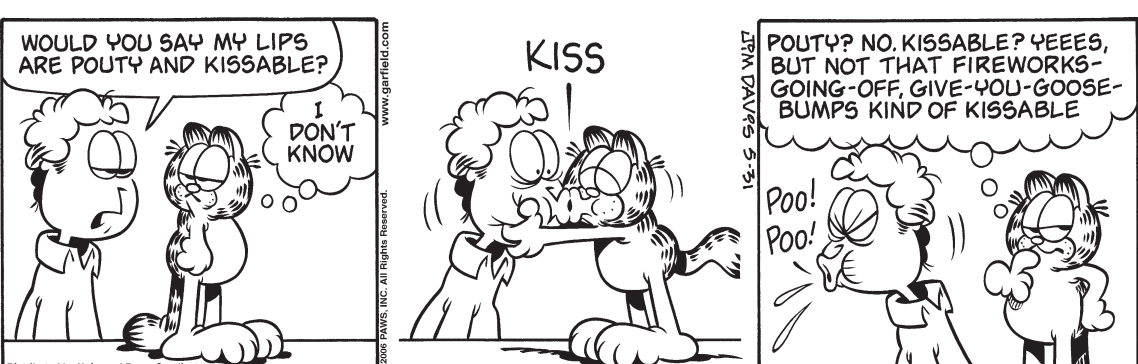
For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



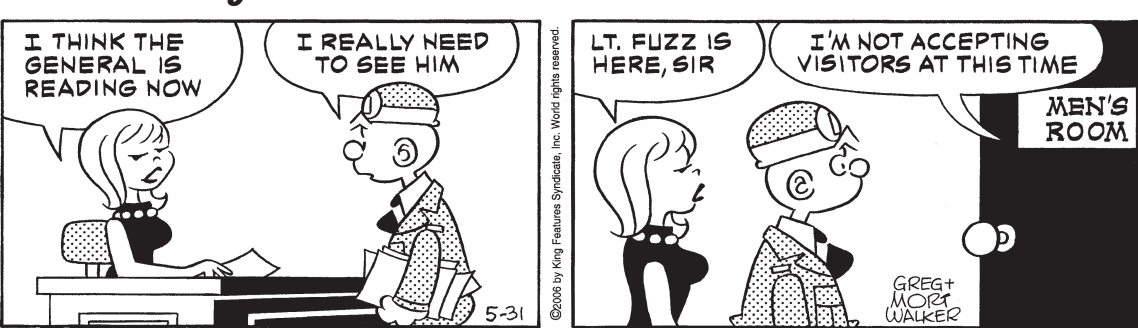
Garfield • Jim Davis



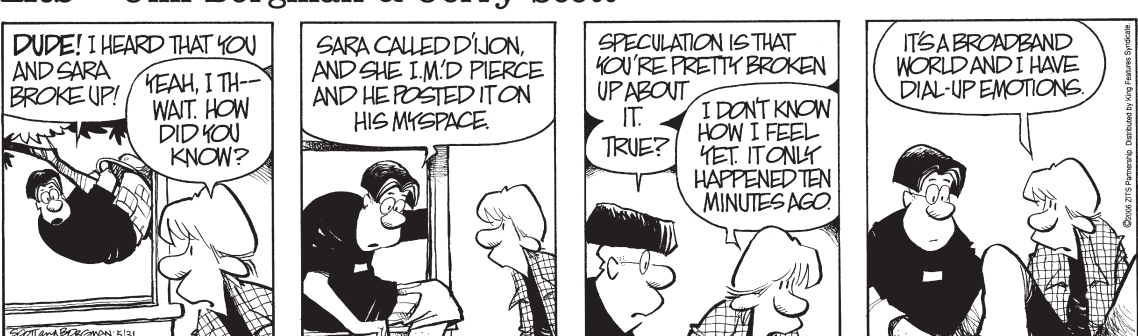
Blondie • Chic Young



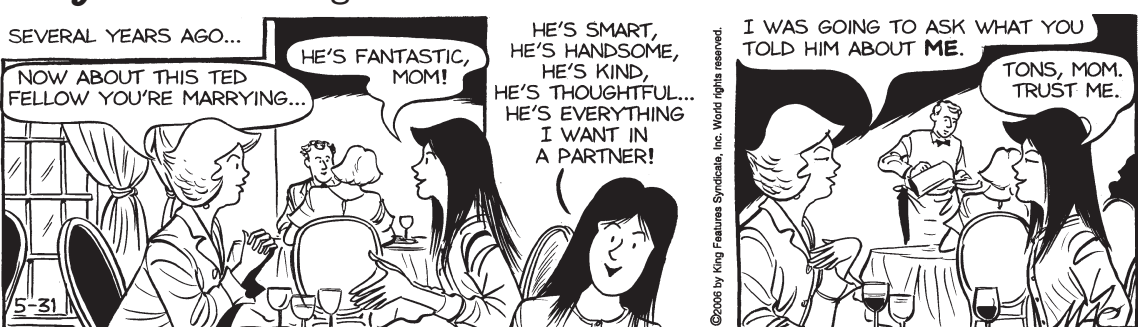
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



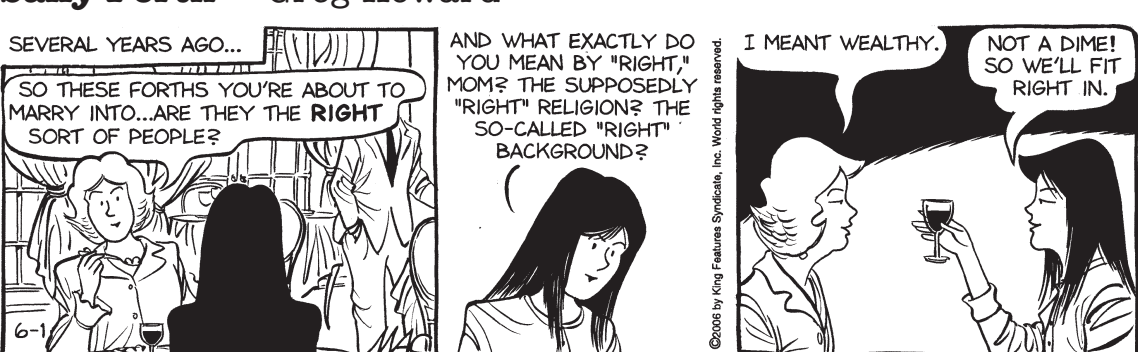
Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Abuse victim afraid to revisit past

DEAR ABBY: I am a woman in my 30s. When I was in high school, a male teacher sexually abused me. After my parents and I went to the authorities about it, it became widely known. The teacher resigned, and the case was dismissed. However, like many high school students are, my peers were cruel and insisted it was my fault. Many of them seemed to think I had brought it on myself.



Abigail Van Buren

Dear Abby

I have since received several years of therapy. I have moved on with my life, and I'm happy. I am being married in the fall, and I'm now a teacher myself, dedicated to protecting my students.

My high school reunion is coming up, and I'd like to go. I've lost track of several friends from high school, and I'd like to see "where everyone is at" in their lives.

My problem is I'm afraid to see the cruel people who made my life so difficult back then. I'm afraid they will bring up the subject. I want to forget about it and continue moving on with my life. What do you think I should do?

— FRIGHTENED BUT CURIOUS IN ILLINOIS

DEAR FRIGHTENED BUT CURIOUS: It's important that you remember that you are no longer the inexperienced young woman who was victimized by that sexual predator. Contact the reunion committee and inquire if the former classmates you want to see plan to attend. (If they don't, you may not want to go.) If they do, then go to the reunion, reconnect and have a good time. And if any of the others are so insensitive as to raise the subject of your abuse, inform them that it took years for you to get over the damage that teacher did, and the trauma they perpetuated because

of their cruel and ignorant gossip. Say you don't care to discuss it, then change the subject.

DEAR ABBY: Can you please settle our question about what is proper attire for church? Are short shorts, tube tops and flip-flops suitable for a house of worship?

— DISMAYED IN MARYSVILLE, MICH.

DEAR DISMAYED: I was raised that a person should dress "respectfully" in the house of the Lord. That means fully shod and covered up enough so that it doesn't distract the other worshippers.

However, dress codes have been greatly relaxed in recent decades. Each congregation has its own standards and, in the final analysis, it is up to the clergy-person and governing body to decide what is or is not appropriate.

DEAR READERS: A group of distinguished geriatric psychiatrists is interested in learning about the experiences of seniors in getting help for mental and emotional problems. (Geriatric psychiatrists are doctors who specialize in older patients.) They would welcome information such as how older people feel about mental health problems, where you seek help for them, what you feel needs to be done to improve services,

and whether you'd like more mental health services than you are getting now.

If you care to share this information, please direct your letters to: Dr. Gene Cohen, Center on Aging, Health and Humanities, 10225 Montgomery Ave., Kensington, MD 20895, or e-mail: dcagingcenter@aol.com. (Dr. Cohen is director of the center.)

P.S. If you would like to "vent," they're ready to hear it.

DEAR ABBY: I met a very kind man about two months ago. From then on, we saw each other twice a week at group get-togethers. He would always lead me away from the others, talking to me and flirting with me. He's very forward. He is always touching me, putting his arms around me — and he asked me for my phone number the second time I saw him.

We have still been hanging out, but I found out he has a girlfriend! He doesn't know that I know. When I pull back from his touching me, he asks me why. Is it possible that he doesn't have a girlfriend? Or is he just one of those guys who will flirt with anyone — including me?

— ANONYMOUS

DEAR ANONYMOUS: Although it's possible that he does not have a girlfriend, it is more likely that he does. Ask the people who have told you he has a girlfriend for more information about her — like her name and phone number — and give her a call. Remember: If he'd cheat on her, he would do it to you. And the next time you see this Romeo and he hits on you — because that's what he's doing — tell him you'd consider it if he were eligible, but he's already taken, and then go back to the group.

Bridge

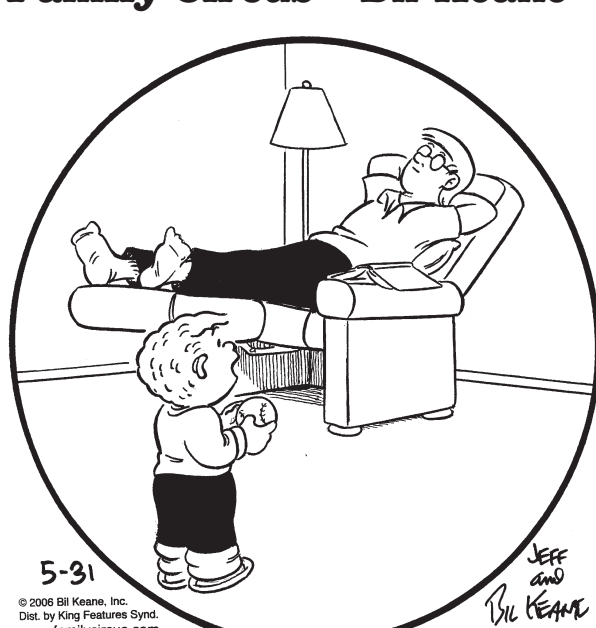
South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

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

The bidding:
 South 2♠* West Pass East 2♦**
 South 2♥* West Pass East 3♦**
 South 4♠* West Pass East Pass

* strong, artificial
 ** negative
 Opening lead — queen of hearts.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



There's Only One Right Play

Let's say you're declarer in four spades and West leads a heart. You win with the king and draw three rounds of trumps. Since you have an inevitable heart loser, you must now try to avoid losing three club tricks.

If you play the ace and a low club — hoping the suit divides 3-3 or that either opponent has the doubleton king — you go down one against proper defense.

But if you play the clubs more carefully, you make the contract. After cashing the ace of clubs, you should continue with the queen rather than the deuce. This slight modification in the play yields a much more satisfying result. West's king and East's ten fall on the same trick, so you lose only two clubs instead of three.

It might be argued that playing the queen is right if you see all four hands, but that there is no justification for playing the queen if you see only two hands.

It is not difficult to refute this argument. Obviously, if the opposing clubs are divided 3-3, it makes no difference whether you lead the deuce or the queen.

But if the clubs are divided 4-2, the card you play will frequently make a difference. Since the player holding the doubleton will be dealt J-x or 10-x twice as often as K-x, it is clearly better to play the queen than the deuce.

Finding the proper percentage play of the queen is by no means a complicated mathematical proposition. It's plain common sense, that's all.

Tomorrow: Haste makes waste.
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Cryptoquip

DL T LHTUXHWDUP
 YZWVDVUXA ZWOP ZL YZJV,
 AZ PZR VRCCZVX DU JZROA
 WTQX DUVXOL AXOUT QZZ?
 Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN A PERSON'S HAT IS WITHIN EASY REACH, I SUPPOSE YOU COULD CALL THAT A HANDY CAP.
 Today's Cryptoquip Clue: L equals F

Crossword

ACROSS

1 "I Remember —"
 5 Glutton
 8 Further a felony
 12 "American —"
 13 Samovar
 14 Theater box
 15 Australia's capital
 17 Erstwhile ugly duckling
 18 In the neighborhood
 19 Chastises
 21 Lotsa bucks
 22 Long sandwich
 23 — Mahal
 26 Morning moisture
 28 Rod of tennis lore
 31 Culture medium
 33 Knight's address
 35 Tide type

DOWN

1 Isinglass
 2 Hebrew month
 3 Stereo alternative
 4 Picture book
 5 Obstacles
 6 Bobby of hockey
 7 Grit your teeth
 8 Loser
 9 Impress
 10 "Zounds!"
 11 Change for a fifty
 16 Okla-homa city
 20 Animation frame
 23 Bill
 24 Past
 25 Indie filmmaker
 27 Oz bigwig
 29 Perfume-label word
 30 Whirling meas.
 32 Go back in
 34 At ease
 37 Mr. Hammar-skjöld
 39 Decks oneself in
 42 Kind of card
 44 Hickory nut
 45 Amorphous mass
 46 Gambling city
 48 Style
 49 Rainbow
 50 Small change
 53 Raw rock

Solution time: 21 mins.

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

Yesterday's answers 5-31

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
31			32		33		34		35	
36				37		38		39		40
		41		42		43		44		
45	46					47			48	49
51				52	53					50
54						55			56	
57						58			59	