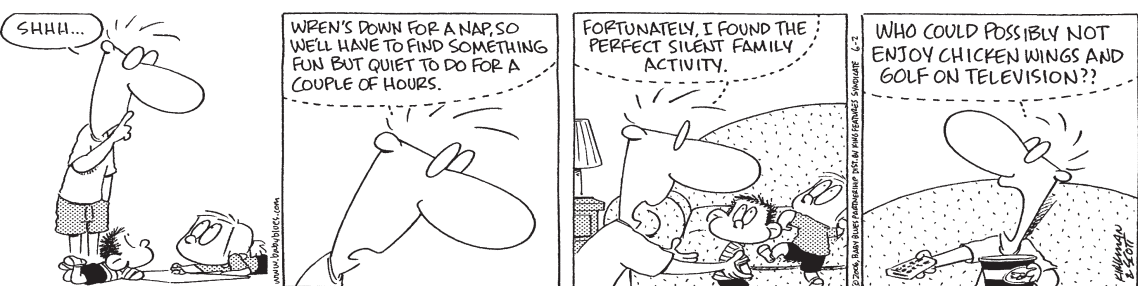


Retail • Norm Feuti (Sample)



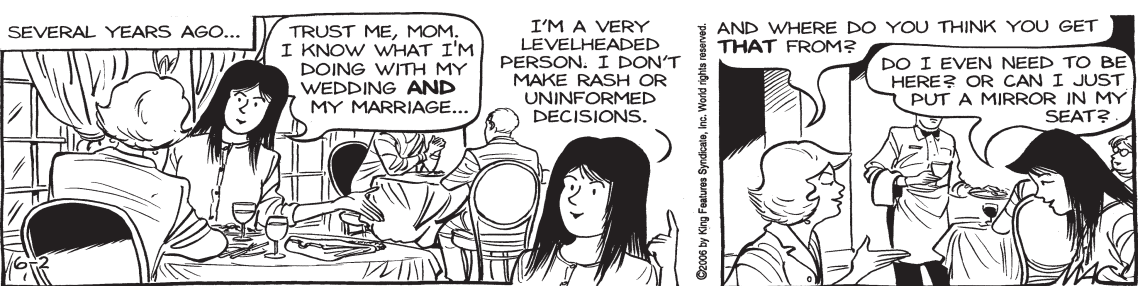
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott (Sample)



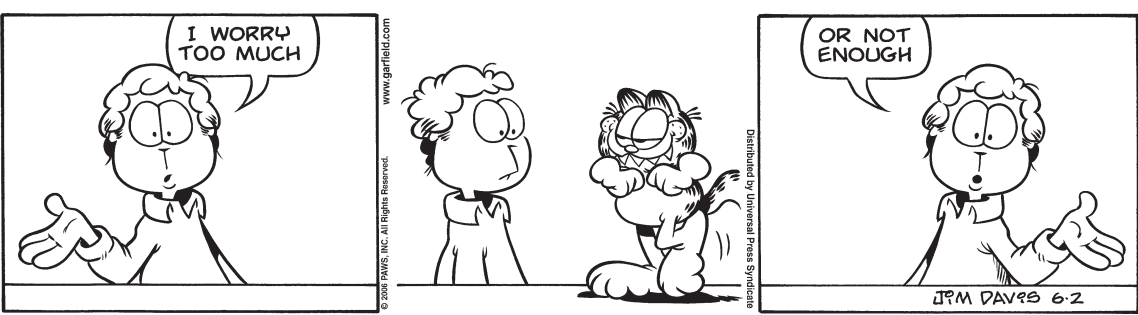
For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



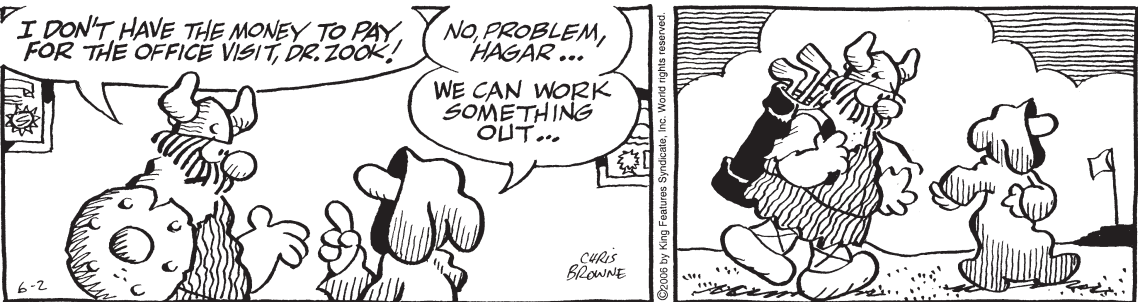
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



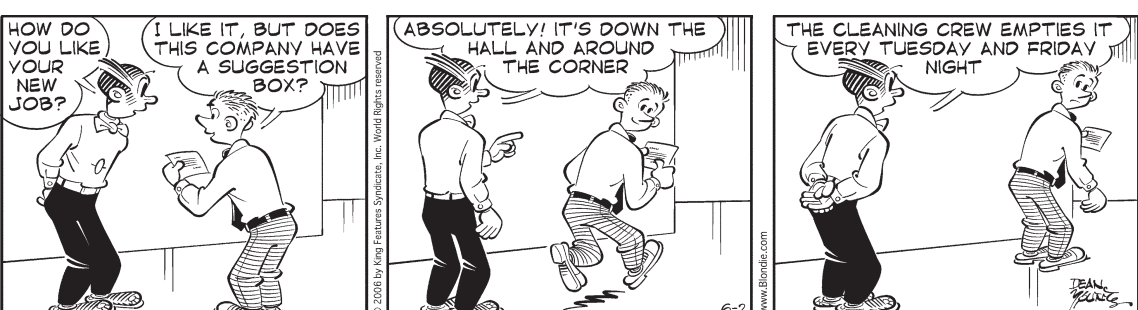
Garfield • Jim Davis



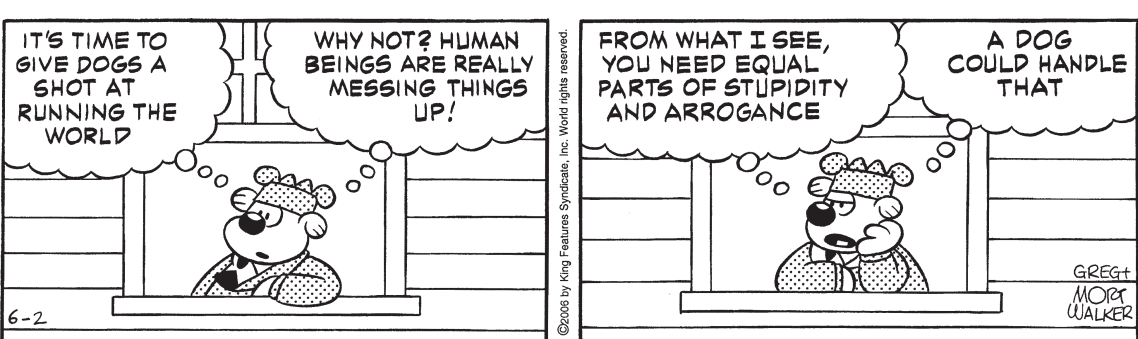
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Blondie • Chic Young



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Cryptoquip

S JRZOMKO RHWUNRJ LN A OZG CNCUO DZLDBZ  
SZ SDHN LSKR HMFIO LR UDZTI TMLYW T NZTBBV  
KRRZ SK OIR SVVUMZORI MZTYWCYB BTXV, C ALGXZN  
J D M W W K R D F R S Z O . C R W O Z V W T B I L ' M Z B B Z .  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THE GIRL USES  
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SO MUCH THAT SHE  
CHANGED HER NAME TO RHODA BUSS.  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: R equals E  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: A DENTIST  
EMPLOYED BY AN ARMY BASE MIGHT BE SEEN  
AS THE APPOINTED DRILL SERGEANT.  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals P

Crossword

**ACROSS**

1 "Today" network  
4 Low voice  
8 "The Da Vinci —"  
12 A Gershwin  
13 Hodge-podge  
14 Barber-shop sweep-ings  
15 Long-popular game show  
17 Incite  
18 Ignite  
19 It's up your sleeve  
21 Torched  
22 Volks-wagen model  
26 Brawny type  
29 AAA job  
30 New Deal org.  
31 Winged  
32 Recipe quantity  
33 Brewer's kiln  
34 Crafty  
35 Erstwhile TV network

**DOWN**

36 Building blocks, often  
37 Large amount  
39 Last (Abbr.)  
40 Dinner for Dobbins  
41 Curved-roof temple  
45 Mexican money  
48 Liberation commem-oration  
50 Acknowl-edge  
51 Dance lesson  
52 "The Greatest"  
53 Tramp's love  
54 Alterna-tive to 40-Across  
55 Cover  
**DOWN**  
1 Pinches  
2 Highland hillside  
3 Troupe group  
4 Dull-green fresh-water fish  
5 Soaring  
6 Round Table address  
7 Fizzy beverage  
8 The gang  
9 Scull need  
10 Groove on  
11 Prior to  
16 Re Ra  
20 Uncivilized  
23 Clear the decks  
24 Basilica area  
25 Makes lace  
26 Door fastener  
27 Big name in scat  
28 "The Say Hey Kid"  
29 Monkey suit  
32 Bela-fonte's style  
33 Expendi-ture  
35 Shell-game need  
36 Holds tightly  
38 Ostenta-tious  
39 Unex-pected victory  
42 Office shape  
43 Where heros are made  
44 Saharan  
45 Comrade  
46 Actress Longoria  
47 Turf  
49 — distance

**Solution time: 25 mins.**

**Yesterday's answer 6-2**

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				52		
53					54				55		

**ACROSS**

1 Emblem of Canada  
6 Brownish-gray shades  
12 Hosiery statistic  
13 Get there  
14 Blissful place  
15 One of Santa's team  
16 Golfer Littler  
17 Wound cover  
19 "All the Things You —"  
20 Alone (Fr.)  
22 Put into words  
24 Cleo's slayer  
27 Clench  
29 Ranch visitor  
32 "Syriana" Oscar winner  
35 Uncomplicated

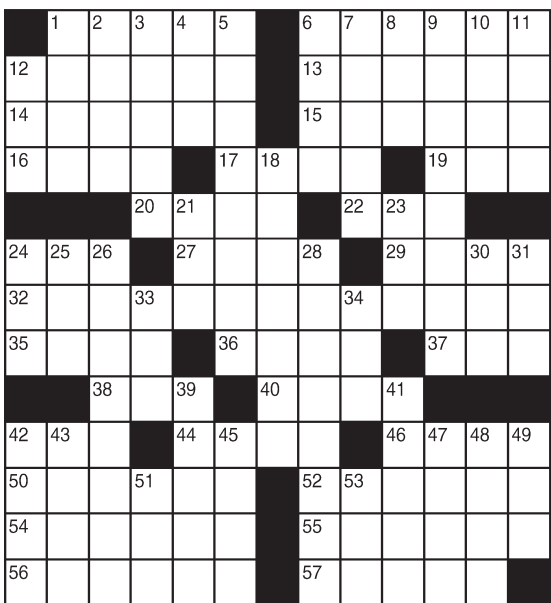
**DOWN**

36 Roe provider  
37 Lamb dam  
38 Bishopric  
40 Remnants  
42 Tackle moguls  
44 Biblical verb  
46 Actress Jessica  
50 Semitic tongue  
52 Showing buoyancy  
54 Light up  
55 California University  
56 Tarzan, notably  
57 Nary a soul

**Solution time: 27 mins.**

**Yesterday's answer 6-3**

NBC	BASS	CODE
IRA	OLIO	HAIR
PASS	WORD	URGE
SET	OFF	ARM
LIT	PASS	AT
HE	MAN	TOW
AL	AR	CUP
SLY	PAX	CUBES
PAS	SEL	ULT
HAY	PAG	ODA
PES	OVER	STEP
AV	OVER	ALI
LADY	OATS	LID



Family Circus • Bill Keane



Bridge — Bidding Quiz

You are South, both sides vulnerable. The bidding has been:

East South West North  
Pass Pass Pass 1 [D]  
Pass ?

What would you bid with each of the following hands?

- [S] J2 [H] 84 [D] AQ95 [C] KJ963
- [S] Q95 [H] J104 [D] 8 [C] AK9854
- [S] KJ4 [H] AJ6 [D] J763 [C] Q85
- [S] J7 [H] AQ962 [D] QJ843 [C] 7

1. Thre diamonds.  
Many of the hard-and-fast principles that govern responses to an opening bid do not apply after a player has passed originally.

Thus, while a two-club response to one diamond would be unconditionally forcing without a previous pass, the same response would not be forcing here after your initial pass.

The reason is obvious.  
The opener is frequently in a position to judge that game is virtually impossible once partner has passed.

Usually, it takes the equivalent of two opening bids to make a game, so if opener has minimal values, he might elect to pass what would normally be regarded as a forcing bid by an unpassed hand.

The recommended jump to three diamonds shows good trump support and values just short of an opening bid. It urges but does not command partner to bid again.

2.. Two clubs. There is some temptation to respond three clubs to show your near-opening-bid values, but it is better to proceed slowly in hands where a trump fit is not yet established. Two clubs shows at least 10 points — passed hand or not — and is therefore a constructive response.

3. Two notrump.  
Ordinarily, two notrump would promise a balanced hand of 13 to 15 points and be forcing to game, but after an initial pass, the range is 11 or 12. Opener is thus free to pass whenever his hand indicates that that would be the right thing to do.

4. Two hearts. Most hands change in value as the bidding progresses.

Not many players would regard this hand as worth an opening bid, but once partner opens with a diamond, the hand increases greatly in value and assumes the stature of an opening bid.

The best way of describing such values is by a jump-shift, indicating a strong suit and implying a fit for opener's suit.

Partner is thus warned that if he passes two hearts — which he may do in an extremely rare case — he is running the risk of losing a game in either hearts or diamonds.

Tomorrow: Swapping horses in midstream.  
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South dealer.  
Both sides vulnerable.

**NORTH**

♠ A Q 3  
♥ 7 5 3  
♦ K J 9 8 2  
♣ K 9

**WEST**

♠ J 9 8 4  
♥ A 10 4  
♦ 6  
♣ Q J 8 7 5

**EAST**

♠ 6 2  
♥ Q J 9 8  
♦ 5  
♣ A 10 6 4 3 2

**SOUTH**

♠ K 10 7 5  
♥ K 6 2  
♦ A Q 10 7 4 3  
♣ —

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1 ♦ Pass 3 ♦ Pass  
5 ♦  
Opening lead — queen of clubs.

Swapping Horses in Midstream

Declarer can sometimes turn what appears to be an unfriendly development to his own advantage. To do so, however, he must remain flexible at all times, lest the opportunity pass him by.

Consider this deal where West led the club queen against five diamonds. South's only concern was the possibility of losing three heart tricks, and he could see two chances to hold his heart losers to two. One was that the jack of spades might fall when he cashed his three top spades, establishing the ten for a discard of one of dummy's hearts. Failing that, he could lead a heart from dummy and hope East had the ace.

Accordingly, South ruffed the club lead, drew a round of trumps and cashed the A-Q-K of spades. When the jack did not appear, South crossed to dummy by ruffing the ten of spades and led a heart to the king. West won with the ace, and the defense cashed two more hearts for down one.

Declarer would have made the contract had he revised his original plan after uncovering the actual spade division. That West still had the jack of spades served South's ultimate purpose just as well as a more favorable spade division.

After taking the high spades, declarer should have led a trump to dummy, ruffed dummy's last club and then led the ten of spades. Instead of trumping West's jack, however, South would discard one of dummy's hearts.

This would leave West in a hopeless predicament. If he led a heart, South would score the king, and if he led a club, declarer would discard a second heart from dummy while trumping in his hand. Dummy's last heart would be South's only other loser, and the contract would be assured.  
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