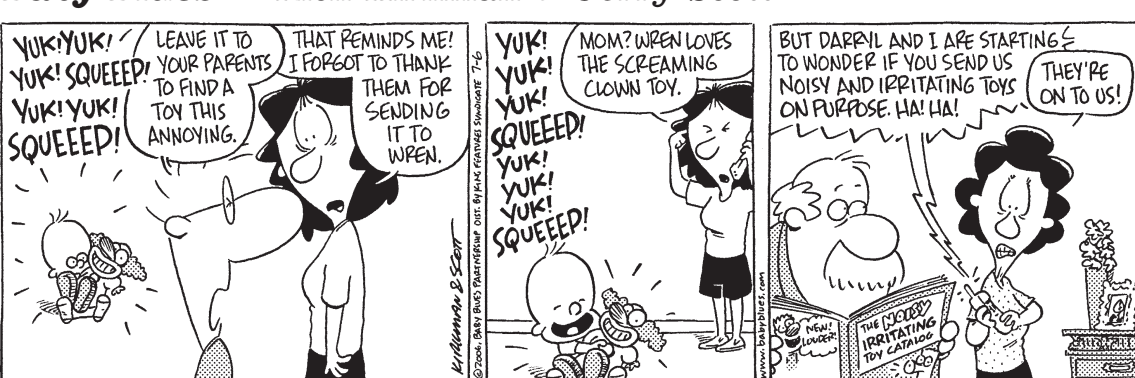


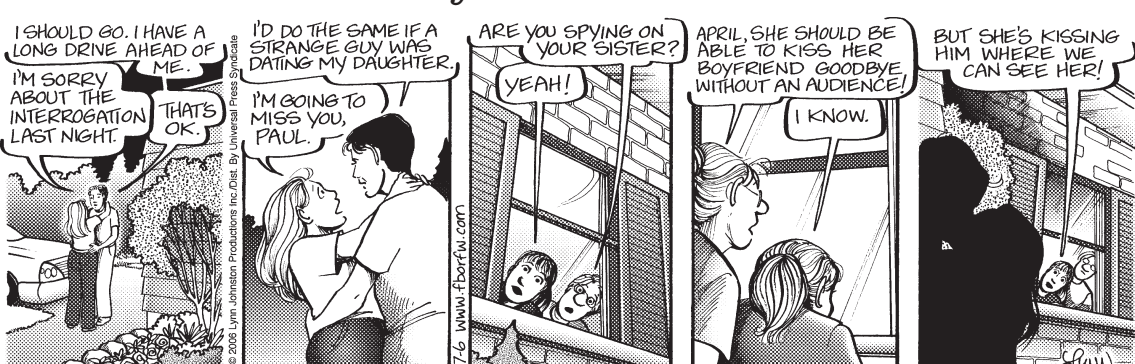
Retail • Norm Feuti (Sample)



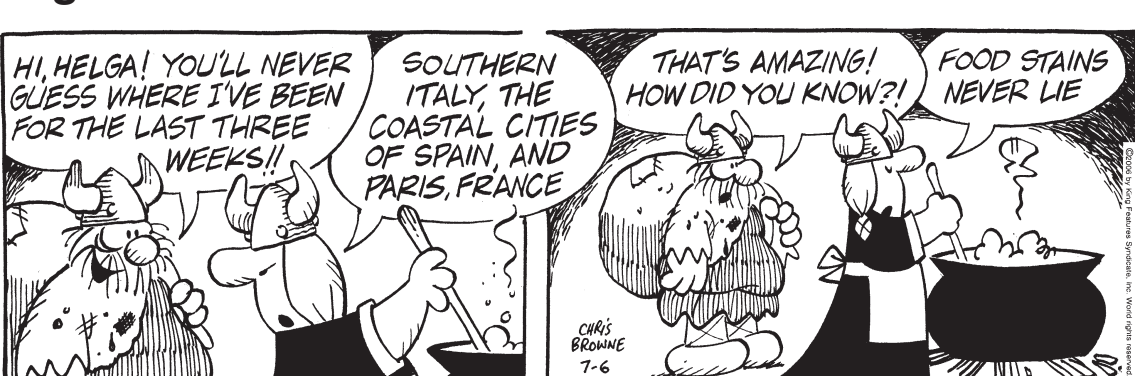
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



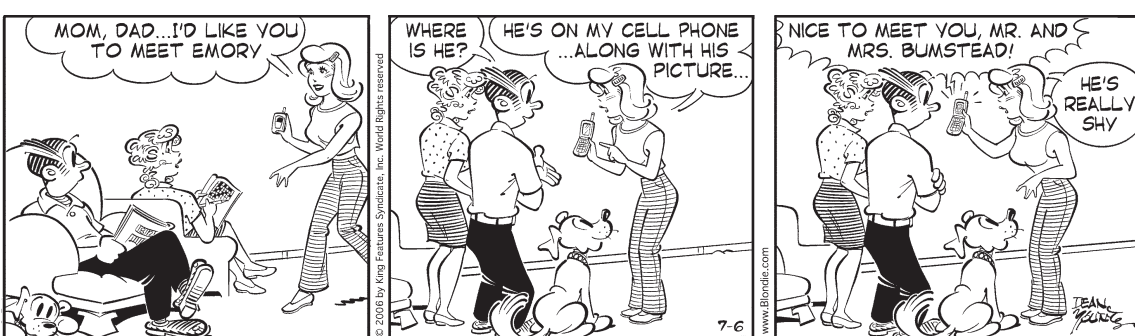
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Garfield • Jim Davis



Blondie • Chic Young



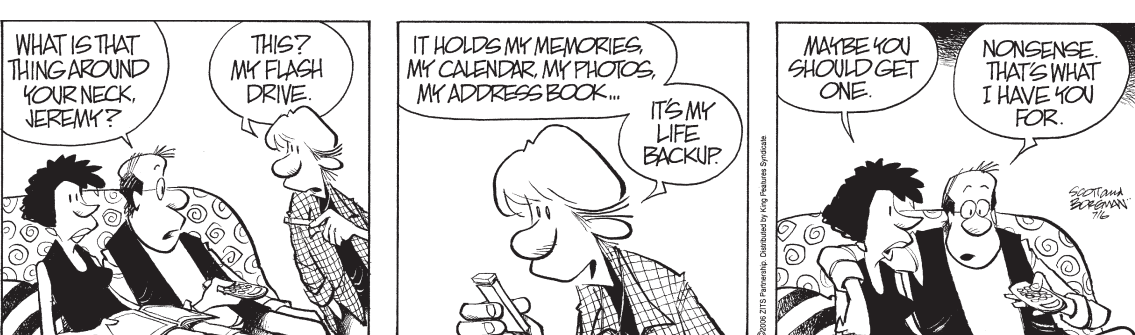
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



What is proper attire for church?

DEAR ABBY: May I respond to your reply: "Dismayed in Marysville, Mich.," regarding attire in church? As a priest and pastor, I'm appalled at how some people come dressed for Sunday worship.



Abigail Van Buren

Dear Abby

You said that "Dress codes have been greatly relaxed in recent decades," which I find to be inaccurate. What has become relaxed is the attitude, the respect and reverence people have for worship and church buildings.

From brides chewing gum to funeral pallbearers wearing tennis shoes, to members wearing flip-flops, shorts and tank tops on Sunday, the lack of respect and reverence to worship is disgusting.

These same people would never allow their children to play in a sporting event out of uniform, or apply for a job interview themselves dressed inappropriately.

Sunday worship should be no different!

— PRIEST IN OHIO

DEAR PRIEST: I also said I was raised to believe people should dress "respectfully" in the house of the Lord — and that means fully shod and covered up enough so it doesn't distract the other worshippers.

However, reaction to my reply varied sharply. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: More important than what people are wearing is the reason for being in church in the first place.

Maybe it would be better if we could all enter God's house blind. If we can't see what people are wearing, we can leave our judgments and prejudices outside and use the time to learn more about God's purpose

for our lives.
— DIANA IN CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

DEAR ABBY: Satan wants to embarrass the church, so he sends people dressed any kind of disrespectful way. They'd be sent home from their jobs if they dressed like that. Women: Cover up! You are worth more than your skin.
— PASTOR'S WIFE IN ST. LOUIS

DEAR ABBY: That we worship is more important than what we wear. That letter reminded me of the story of the old cowboy who visited a new church in his jeans and boots.

After the service, the pastor greeted him and remarked, "We enjoyed having you here today, but before you return, you should have a talk with God about proper attire in church." The next week, the cowboy returned wearing the same clothes, so the pastor approached him again.

"I thought I told you to speak with God about what to wear when you came here," he said. The cowboy responded, "I did. But he said he didn't know because he'd never set foot in here!"
— IOWA COWBOY

DEAR ABBY: My pastor says no one would consider dressing casually if they were going to be in the presence of our president or any other dignitary.

Why would we consider anything less for our Lord? Makes perfect sense to me.
— BARBARA, MORGANTOWN, PA.

DEAR ABBY: I have seen people come to church straight from working in their yard, without changing or washing up. When I was a child living in the country, men came to work wearing overalls, but they were clean and, most of the time, new.
Today, there is no excuse for slovenliness in public, much less in God's house.
— LILLIE IN SPRINGFIELD, MO.

DEAR ABBY: Church is where you go to give praise to the Lord, not check out what others are wearing.

If "Dismayed" feels put out because someone isn't dressed the way she'd like, then maybe the services should be held at Macy's so she can feel more comfortable.
— MATTHEW IN PEORIA

DEAR ABBY: A friend asked me today if dancing with someone other than your partner is considered "cheating."

What do you think?
— C.M. IN SCARBOROUGH, CANADA

DEAR C.M.: Dancing with someone other than your partner is not cheating.

However, it is considered rude if your partner is left sitting alone.

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, Calif. 90069.

Bridge

East dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ K 8
♥ K 5
♦ A J 5 4 3
♣ 7 6 3 2

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

EAST
♠ J 10 5 2
♥ 8 6 4
♦ Q 10 7 6
♣ Q 9

SOUTH
♠ A 9 6 4
♥ A 7 3
♦ K 9 2
♣ A J 8

The bidding:
East South West North
Pass 1 NT Pass 3 NT
Opening lead — queen of hearts.

The Battle for Survival

Safety plays take many forms, but the underlying principle is nearly always the same: In order to protect against an unfavorable distribution of the adverse cards, declarer risks losing a trick he might not have to lose.

The large family of safety plays need not be memorized. They should suggest themselves automatically when a threatening set of circumstances arises. They flow naturally from the prevailing situation.

In this deal, for example, South sees that there are only seven tricks immediately available at three notrump, and that the best source of additional tricks lies in the diamond suit.

The normal way of approaching the diamonds is to cash the king and then lead a small one toward the A-J, intending to finesse the jack. But this method of play is better designed to obtain the maximum number of diamond tricks than to fulfilling the contract.

The trouble with playing the diamonds in this fashion is that it does not protect against the possibility that East was dealt four diamonds to the Q-10. Since declarer will probably be unable to make the contract if this proves to be the case, he should turn his thoughts to guarding against this eventuality.

He can protect himself fully by winning the opening heart lead in his hand and playing a low diamond to the ace. When both opponents follow, the contract becomes assured. A low diamond is next returned from dummy.

If East shows out, South wins with the king and leads a diamond toward the jack to assure four diamond tricks. If East instead follows with a low diamond, declarer plays the nine. If West is able to win the trick, it means the diamonds were divided 3-2 and the contract is made. If West does not win the trick, once again four diamond tricks become certain.

Note that it doesn't help East to play the ten on the second diamond in the actual deal. In that case, South wins with the king and returns the nine to produce the same result.

Cryptoquip

Y E G J Z I G Y X U M I Z A D Z A

O P Q U Y O J G Y Y U N P S E Q E O Q

Y E G X O A Q Y Q U S E O A D G

E G M A O N G Q U J Z Y O S O M M .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF YOU'RE THRILLED TO SEE SOMEONE IN YOUR FAMILY, I'D SAY THAT'S RELATION ELATION.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: U equals O

Family Circus • Bil Keane



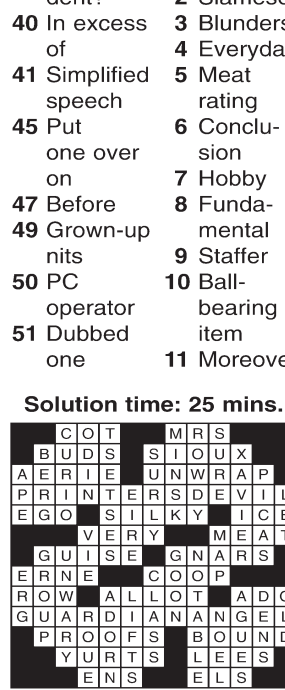
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"They're all white. That's why we hardly ever see them in coloring books."

Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Goblet feature
- 5 Energy
- 8 Bygone VHS alternative
- 12 From one end to t'other
- 13 Nucleic compound, briefly
- 14 "So be it"
- 15 Deserve
- 16 Check-cashers need two
- 17 Raced
- 18 Guru's sine qua non
- 20 Follow closely
- 22 Automotive president?
- 26 Pelts
- 29 "Little Women" woman
- 30 One of us
- 31 Domestic
- 32 Reverence
- 33 Bog material
- 34 Matter-horn for one
- 35 Commotion
- 36 Nourishes
- 37 Automotive president?
- 40 In excess of
- 41 Simplified speech
- 45 Put one over on
- 47 Before
- 49 Grown-up nits
- 50 PC operator
- 51 Dubbed one
- 52 Incessantly
- 53 Pub missile
- 54 Hot tub
- 55 Start over
- 57 Automative president?
- 58 Unes-corted
- 59 Siamese
- 60 Blunders cabbage
- 61 Everyday
- 62 Meat rating
- 63 Conclusion
- 64 Hobby
- 65 Fundamental
- 66 Staffer
- 67 Ball-bearing item
- 68 Moreover
- 19 Out of use, in the dict.
- 21 Whatever amount
- 23 — averages
- 24 Burden
- 25 "Phooey!"
- 26 Unes-corted
- 27 Hardy cabbage
- 28 Wrong
- 32 E-mail info
- 33 Street merchant
- 35 Brewery product
- 36 Calendar abbr.
- 38 Dodge
- 39 Phantom's territory
- 42 Relinquish
- 43 On the rocks
- 44 Infamous emperor
- 45 Flop
- 46 "Home of the brave" (Abbr.)
- 48 Sartorial problem

Solution time: 25 mins.



Yesterday's answer 7-6

