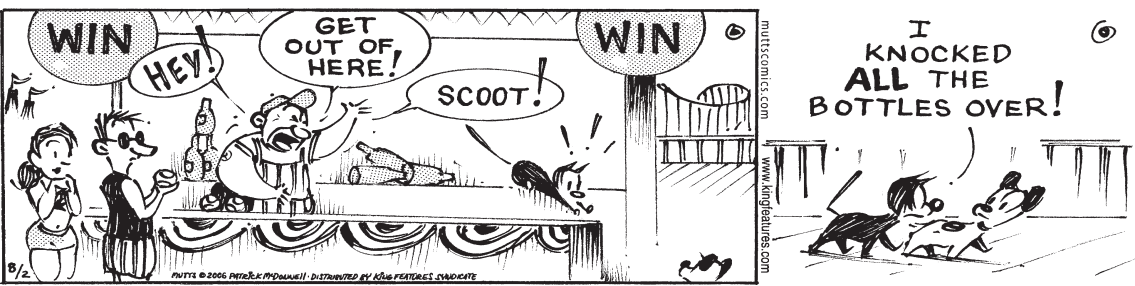


Mother Goose & Grim • Mike Peters (Sample)



Mutts • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott (Sample)



For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



Garfield • Jim Davis



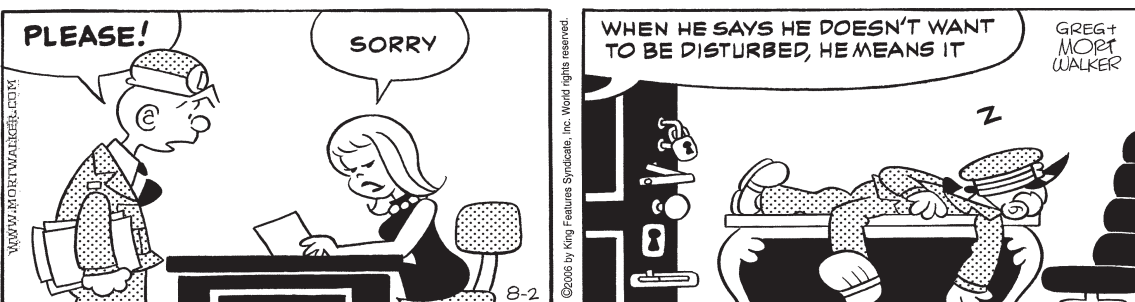
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



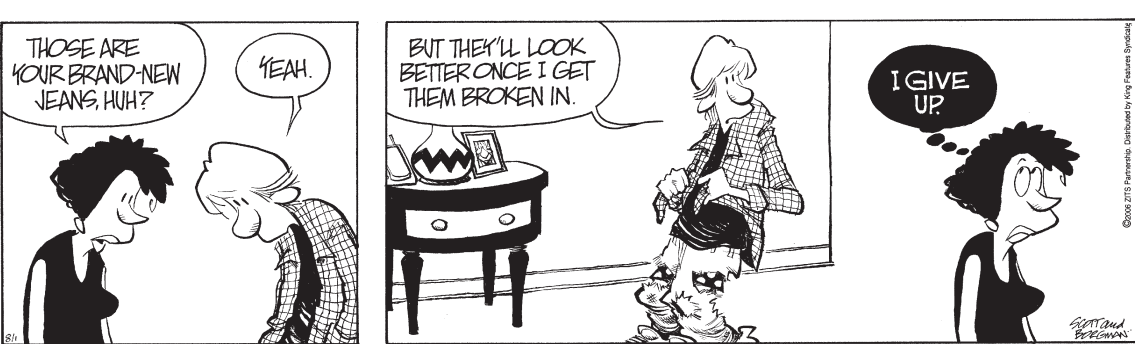
Blondie • Chic Young



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Cryptoquip

E PFT KFAI-AFVVFB, NEVVF YM RJA OYBOHT E DEIIEH
 C "IRUA XP XSITRIIRPW BEXXYHX JAP JM PZH
 EPJ VRF-CFIFNIXB IFAI," BJKPXR, PZHK RJA'T DH
 RA KJ UESV F. WBEQQ. E WJXPXH THWJXPXH.
 Yesterday's Cryptoquip: BECAUSE SOME Yesterdays Cryptoquip: A NEW BEST-SELLER,
 ANGRY BEES ATTACKED HIM, THE GUY HAD TO CALLED "TIPS ON OUTWITTING ANY LIE-
 TAKE PART IN A STING OPERATION. DETECTOR TEST," IS BY PAUL E. GRAFF.
 Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals Y Today's Cryptoquip Clue: M equals F

Crossword

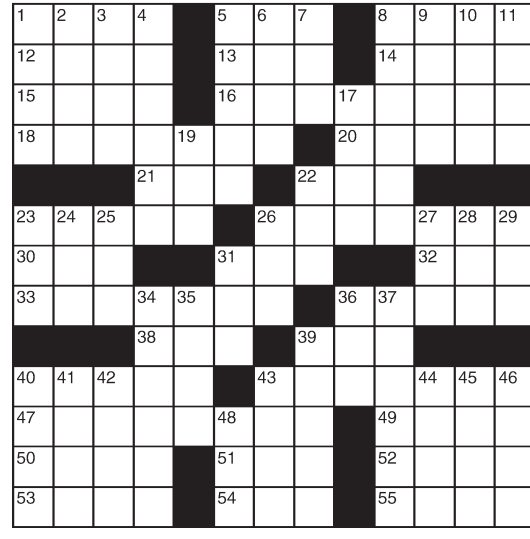
ACROSS
 1 Arguments
 5 Alias (Abbr.)
 8 "Dear —"
 12 Send overseas
 13 Opposite of "trans-"
 14 Scottish hillside
 15 Workbench attachment
 16 Ersatz stain remover
 18 Movie-house treat
 20 Also-ran
 21 Cretan mountain
 22 Support- ing
 23 Bound into bundles
 26 Lake transport
 30 Work with
 31 Driver's license datum
 32 "CSI" evidence

DOWN
 3 Greeting-card brand
 36 The staff of life
 38 Deteriorate
 39 Coloration
 40 Sing like Bing
 43 Viper wiper?
 47 Ann and Andy
 49 Capri, e.g.
 50 Farm fraction
 51 Dine
 52 Night light
 53 Honey bunch?
 54 Whatever amount
 55 Applies lightly

Solution time: 21 mins.

LET'S LEA ARGO
 ECHO ARM LUAV
 FRAU PRESUMES
 TURNIP NIMBLE
 DREW RNA
 PRESIDES AJDE
 ACT SUITE NOS
 RACE PRESAGES
 ERE SAPS
 OCTAVIE LYCEUM
 PRESENTS ESSE
 TORE JILL NAPE
 SPAR DEN DUST

Yesterday's answer 8-1



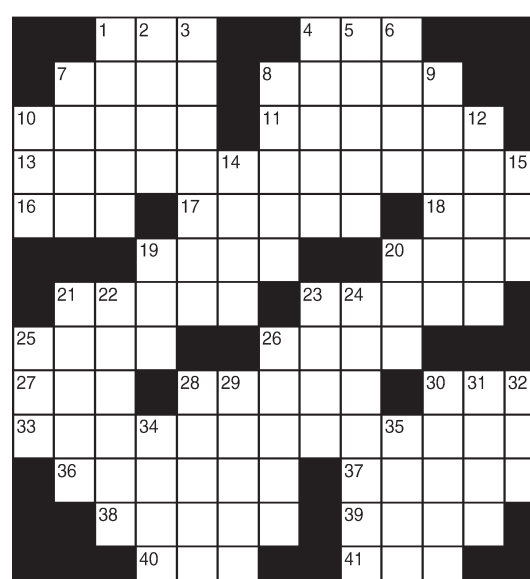
ACROSS
 1 Hot tub
 4 Pinch
 7 Campus quarters
 8 Cretan king, son of Zeus
 10 Criminal
 11 Timely word?
 13 Becomes boisterous
 16 Strange
 17 Winter forecast
 18 Neither mate
 19 Use an old phone
 20 Gross
 21 First Little Pig's material
 23 Tests the waters
 25 Blood-curdling
 26 Youngsters

DOWN
 27 Altar
 28 Sitcom
 30 Support system?
 33 Deals a crushing blow
 36 "Dennis the —"
 37 Accumulate, as expenses
 38 Wheels of fortune?
 39 Sea eagle
 40 P.I.
 41 Bond, e.g.

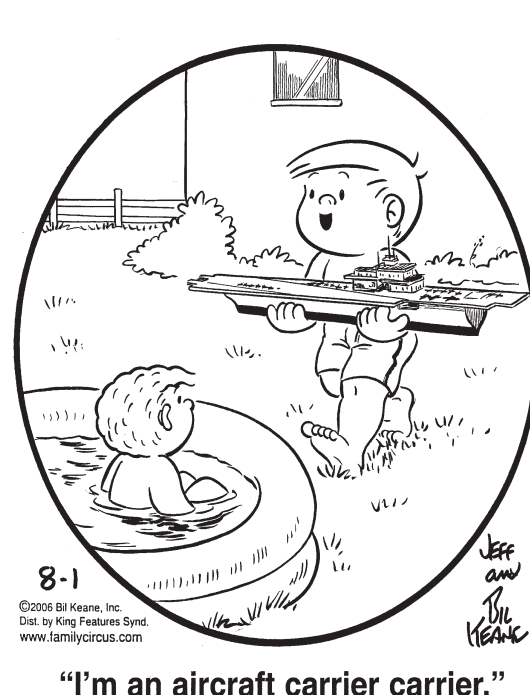
Solution time: 21 mins.

ROWS AKA ABBY
 SHIP CIS BRAE
 VISE CLUBSODA
 POPCORN LOSER
 IDA FOR
 BALED ROWBOAT
 USE SEX DNA
 SHOEBOX BREAD
 ROT HUE
 CROON CARWASH
 RAGDOLLS ISLE
 ACRE EAT NEON
 BEES ANY DABS

Yesterday's answer 8-2



Family Circus • Bill Keane



Bridge

South dealer.
 East-West vulnerable.

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

WEST
 ♠ 3
 ♥ A K 9 3
 ♦ 8 7 5 4
 ♣ 10 9 7 5

EAST
 ♠ K 9 7 6
 ♥ 8 6 2
 ♦ 6 2
 ♣ Q J 8 6

SOUTH
 ♠ A 10 5 4 2
 ♥ J 10 7 4
 ♦ K J
 ♣ A 3

The bidding:
 South West North East
 1 ♠ Pass 2 ♦ Pass
 2 NT Pass 3 ♠ Pass
 4 ♠

Opening lead — king of hearts.

East Sells Declarer a Bill of Goods

It is sometimes necessary to misrepresent your hand to partner in order to achieve a particular goal. This is especially true on defense when a situation arises where you can afford to mislead partner without causing your side any injury.

Here is a typical case. Assume you're East and partner leads the king of hearts against four spades. You can tell from the bidding that declarer will make the contract with normal play. The most you can hope to score on defense are two hearts and a trump trick.

But you shouldn't be willing to concede the contract without putting up a fight. You might be able to throw a scare into declarer that will cause him to lose a trick he would not ordinarily lose.

So, with this in mind, you play the eight of hearts on West's king and the two when he continues with the ace. By playing the 8-2 in this fashion, you indicate that you would like partner to lead still another heart.

When West continues with the three, South, who has observed your high-low, is very likely to conclude that you asked for the suit to be continued because you started with a doubleton heart. Since he has no good reason to doubt this, he is apt to ruff with dummy's jack of trumps — and if he does, you've got him!

When you follow suit to the third heart, South will realize he's been had, but it's then too late for him to do anything about it. He cannot prevent you from scoring two trump tricks, and the apparently certain contract goes down the drain.

West dealer.
 North-South vulnerable.

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

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

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

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

The bidding:
 West North East South
 1 ♥ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
 4 ♥ 5 ♣ 6 ♥ 7 ♣
 Dble Pass Pass Pass
 Opening lead — seven of diamonds.

Once in a Lifetime

The International Matchpoint scale used in most team contests reflects swings of anywhere from 20 points (1 IMP) to more than 4,000 points (24 IMPs). In practice, about 98 percent of all gains are between 1 IMP (for an overtrick) to 17 IMPs (usually for a vulnerable small slam bid and made at one table and defeated at the other). Swings of 18 IMPs or more are extremely rare.

Consider this deal, then, on which one team gained 21 IMPs for making a vulnerable doubled grand slam at one table and a game in the opposite direction at the other table! The deal occurred in a knockout team event at the annual Tri-State Regional in Rye Brook, N.Y., earlier this year.

The bidding shown took place at the first table. North's five-club bid was intended primarily as a sacrifice against East-West's game. Vulnerable sacrifices against non-vulnerable games are highly uncommon, but on this occasion, North (your writer) felt that five clubs would not go down more than one and might even make opposite the right hand.

South (Richard De Martino) then saved against what he thought was a makable slam, figuring he would go down 500 or 800 and thus come out ahead.

West thereupon led a diamond, one of only two cards in his hand (a club was the other) that would allow the slam to make. De Martino took East's nine with the queen, cashed a trump and the ace of diamonds, then ruffed a heart, a diamond, a heart and another diamond, establishing dummy's diamonds. Dummy's remaining trump provided the necessary entry that allowed declarer to get rid of his spade loser on a diamond. Making the doubled grand slam came to 2,330 points. Adding insult to injury, North-South's teammates bid and made five hearts at the other table to add another 450 points to the team's total, good for a rarely seen 21-IMP gain.

