

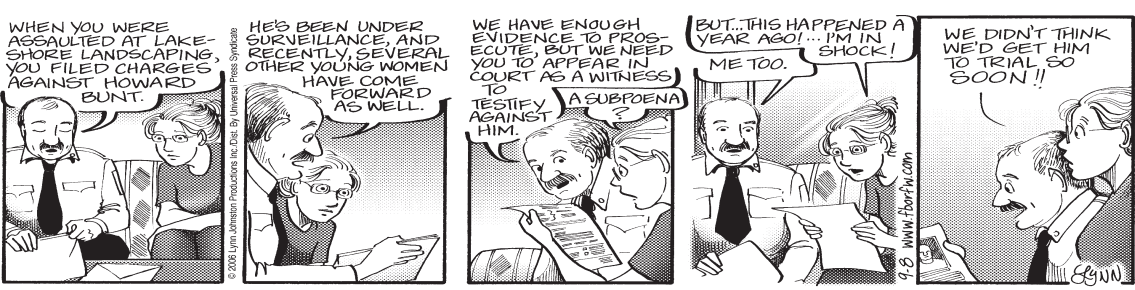
Mother Goose & Grim • Mike Peters (Sample)



Mutts • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott (Sample)



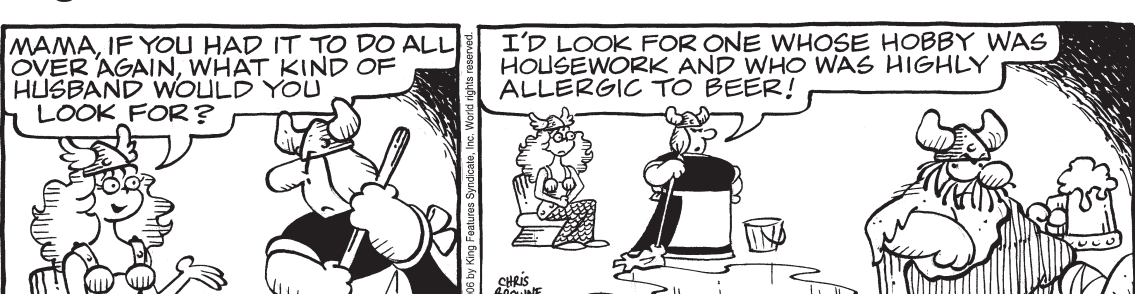
For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



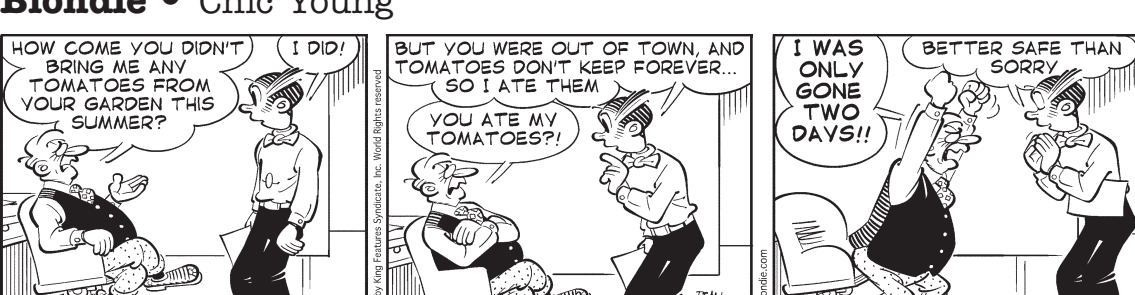
Garfield • Jim Davis



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



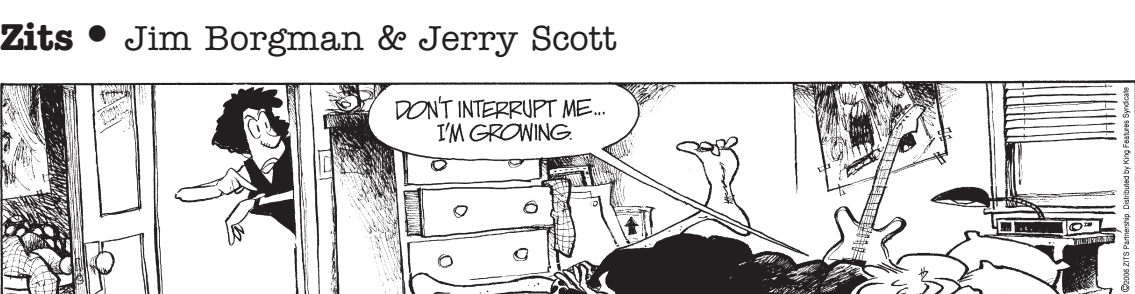
Blondie • Chic Young



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Cryptoquip

FNUI UJ MLURL EJ JI GRF'VW VWTYJMH
 BJIYIGLEJYIY ERZGIXX "SFDABWEWVG IJMM" KSJBW
 QIRNFIX LIFFIY UJ NJ EVV RM TCXVTA, GRF CTG EW
 XUYIX: "MEVV EQNBZ IOI." XTAJMH T XKTJM VJYW.
 Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN A NEW ENGLANDER MAKES A RANDOM SCRIBBLING, COULD YOU CALL THAT A YANKEE DOODLE? Yesterday's Cryptoquip: MOVIE IN WHICH AN UNDERHANDED ACTRESS BECOMES HEMMED IN ON ALL SIDES: "WALL ABOUT EVE."
 Today's Cryptoquip Clue: I equals E Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals R

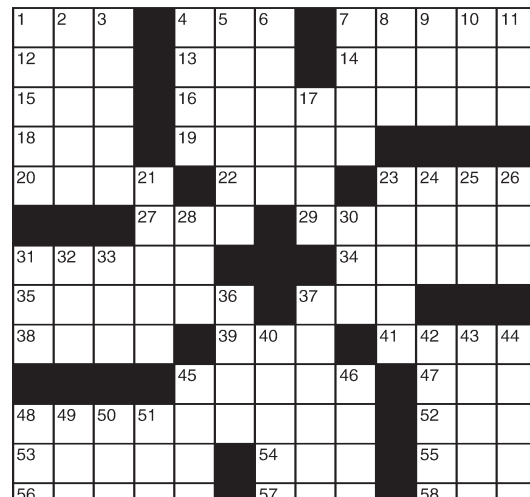
Crossword

ACROSS
 1 Actress Longoria
 4 Coll. transcript no.
 7 Wahine's greeting
 12 Cover
 13 Curved path
 14 Simpleton
 15 Street address?
 16 A little of everything
 18 "— the ramparts ..."
 19 Hybrid eating utensil
 20 Nerd
 22 History chapter
 23 Poet Teasdale
 27 "— Town"
 29 Varied
 31 Jennifer Garner series
 34 Cut in two
 35 Musical mix
 37 PC acronym
 38 Tower city
 39 Mimic

DOWN
 1 Macaroni shape
 2 Insect-eating bird
 3 Embellish
 4 Spaces
 5 Suitable
 6 Man of many parts?
 7 Uncontrollable
 8 Ferrigno or Costello
 9 NHL Hall-of-Famer
 10 Not vert.
 11 Black cuckoo
 17 Stroller
 21 Bandicoot's kin
 23 Postage
 24 The whole shooting match

Solution time: 25 mins.
 DOH APES DASH
 ARE MICK OBOE
 HEADACHE GLUE
 BARTOK NEO
 ONO NEW OOHED
 SNOB GET DEVO
 HOMES BOW AIM
 REA PEDDLE
 EVEREST EEL
 SARI HEADWIND
 ANNE LEAVE NUN
 USES SLED ETA

Yesterday's answer 9-8

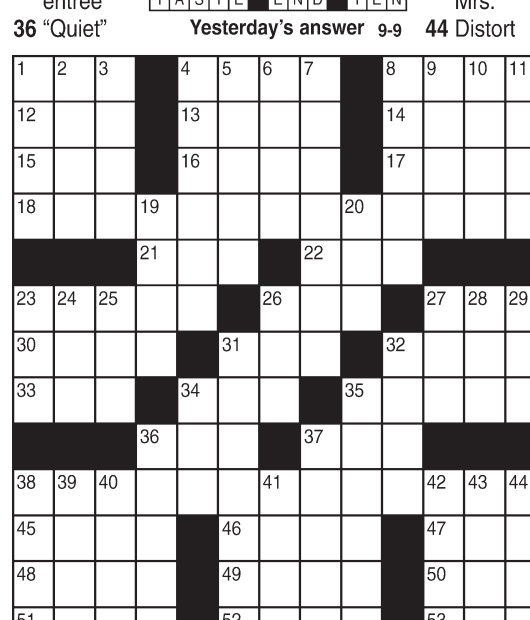


ACROSS
 1 "Great Expectations" hero
 4 Undergoes recession
 8 "Star Trek II" villain
 12 Caviar base
 13 Shaving cream additive
 14 Verdi opera
 15 Have bills
 16 Paddock parent
 17 Beseech
 18 Dismissal
 21 Sort
 22 "— Little Teapot"
 23 Fool
 26 Econ. indicator
 27 Ump
 30 Frenzied
 31 Moonshine container
 32 Trademark symbol
 33 Gas stat
 34 Kitty
 35 Skewered entree
 36 "Quiet"

DOWN
 1 Figure-head's place
 19 Eccentricity
 2 "Music Man" venue
 3 One of the Avengers
 4 With no trouble at all
 5 Lose a staring contest
 6 Connors competitor
 7 Oozing
 8 Greek consonant
 9 Take on
 10 Hebrew month
 11 Unfavorable votes
 19 Eccentricity

Solution time: 27 mins.
 EVA GPA ALOHA
 LID ARC MORON
 BRO POTPOURRI
 OER SPORK
 WONK ERA SARA
 OUR MOTLEY
 ALIAS HALVE
 MEDLEY ROM
 PISA APE PITA
 SWELL CHI
 JAMBALAYA IRK
 EGRET CON LEE
 TASTE END YEN

Yesterday's answer 9-9



Bridge

1. You are declarer with the West hand at Three Notrump. North leads the K-Q of clubs, which you duck, and then the jack, on which South shows out. How would you play the hand?
West
 ♠ K J 10 5
 ♥ A K 8
 ♦ A Q
 ♣ A 9 4 2
East
 ♠ Q 8 2
 ♥ Q 6 5 4
 ♦ J 7 4 3
 ♣ 8 6

2. You are declarer with the West hand at Four Hearts, and North leads the five of hearts. You win South's nine and return a high heart. North takes the ace and returns the heart eight, which you win, South having discarded two diamonds. How would you play the hand?
West
 ♠ K 10
 ♥ K Q J 10 4 3
 ♦ K 6
 ♣ J 8 6
East
 ♠ J 7 5
 ♥ 7 6 2
 ♦ A 4
 ♣ A K 10 9 3

Test Your Play

1. If North has the ace of spades, you cannot make the contract, so you must assume South has the ace. However, it would be wrong to lead a spade at this point because South would win and most likely return a diamond. You would then be faced with the critical question of whether to take the diamond finesse or rely on a 3-3 heart break instead — and you would have no way of knowing which to do.

You can avoid this dilemma by first cashing the A-K-Q of hearts. If the suit divides 3-3, you cash the fourth heart and then force out the ace of spades to assure nine tricks. If the hearts turn out to be divided 4-2, you can then fall back on the diamond finesse to try to make the contract.

By testing the hearts before attacking spades, you give yourself two chances to succeed instead of just one.

2. There is a possibility of scoring the rest of the tricks by taking a club finesse, but there is also the possibility of going down if the finesse loses to the queen and South returns a spade, putting you in position to lose two spade tricks.

You can guarantee the contract against any lie of the cards by crossing to dummy with a diamond and leading a low spade toward your hand. Let's assume South follows low and you lose the ten to the queen.

This is no great hardship because whatever North returns, you win and next force out the ace of spades, establishing dummy's jack as a trick on which you can discard a club. The most you can lose with this approach is a heart and two spades.

Tomorrow: A little effort goes a long way.
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South dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
 ♠ J 10 7
 ♥ Q 7 6 5
 ♦ Q 7 6
 ♣ A 6 5

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

EAST
 ♠ 8 6 3
 ♥ A K 10 4 2
 ♦ 9 5
 ♣ 9 8 2

SOUTH
 ♠ A K Q 9 5 2
 ♥ —
 ♦ A K 8 4
 ♣ K 7 3

The bidding:
 South 2 ♣ *
 West Pass
 North 3 ♣
 East 6 ♣
 * strong, artificial
 Opening lead — queen of clubs.

A Little Effort Goes a Long Way

Assume you are declarer at six spades and West leads the queen of clubs. How would you play the hand?
 If you don't give the matter much thought, you might win the club, draw trumps and eventually end up down one, losing a club and a diamond when the diamonds divide 4-2 rather than 3-3.

You can make the slam, however, if you follow a more promising but less obvious line of play. After winning the club with the king and playing the ace of trumps, you lead a diamond to the queen and another diamond back to the ace.

After both opponents follow suit, you lead a trump to the ten, producing this position:

North
 [S] J
 [H] Q 7 6 5
 [D] 7
 [C] A 6

West
 [H] J 9 8
 [D] J 10
 [C] J 10 4

East
 [S] 8
 [H] A K 10 4 2
 [C] 9 8

South
 [S] K Q 9 5
 [D] K 8
 [C] 7 3

You now lead dummy's last diamond, and East is helpless. If he ruffs, you follow low and later discard dummy's club loser on the king of diamonds. Your third club can then be ruffed in dummy.

If East discards instead of ruffing the diamond, you win with the king, ruff the eight of diamonds with dummy's jack and later lose only a club to make the slam.

Family Circus • Bill Keane



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