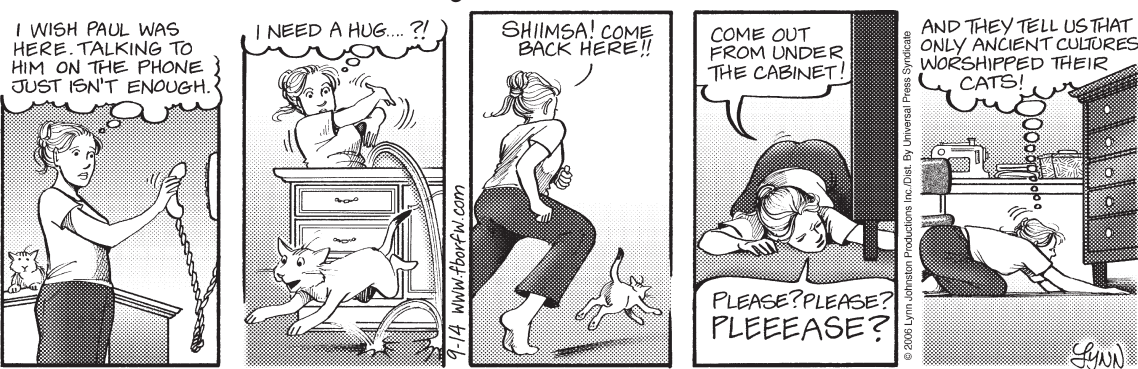
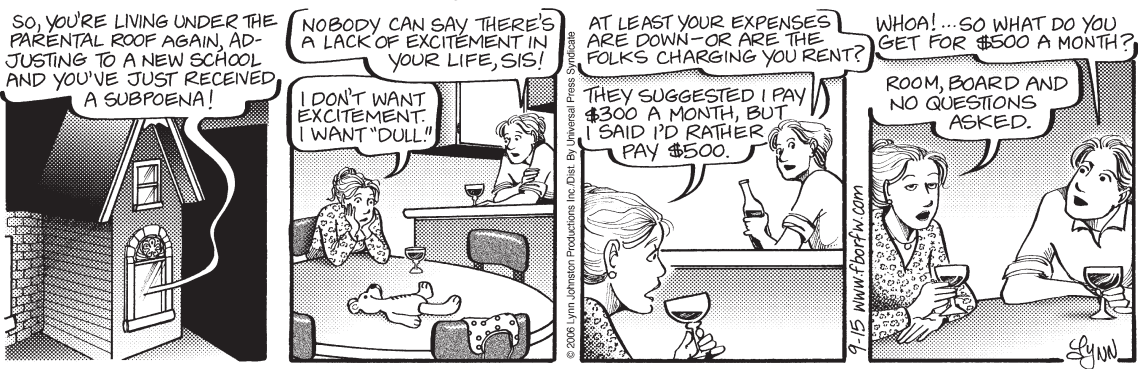


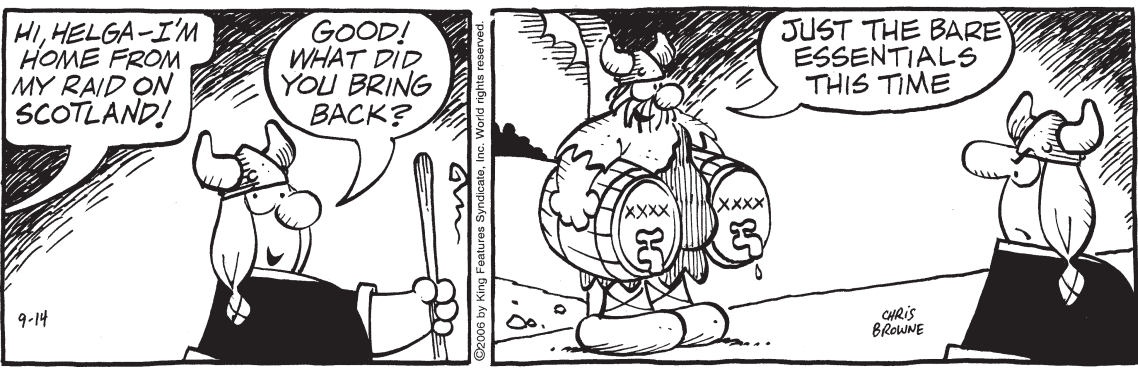
For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



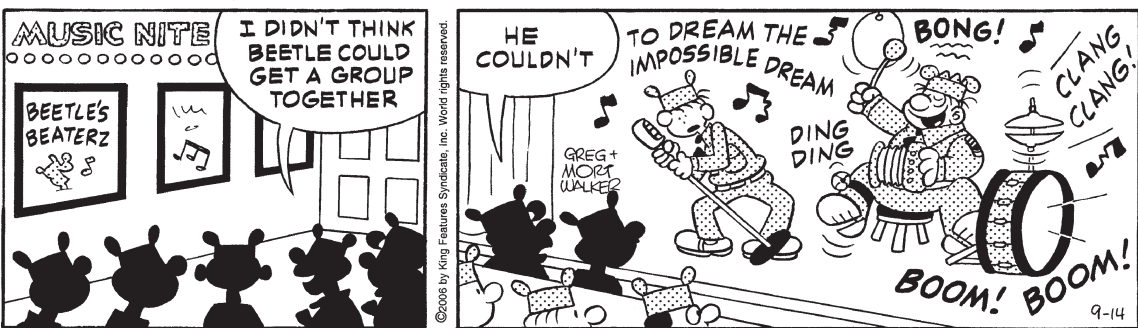
Garfield • Jim Davis



Blondie • Chic Young



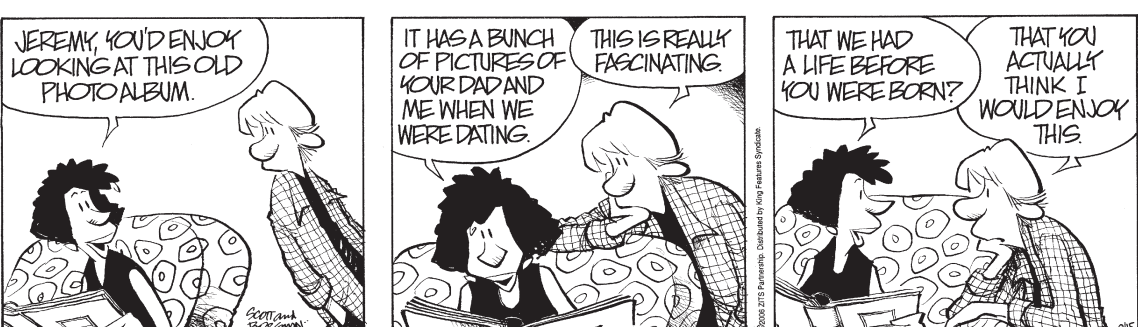
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



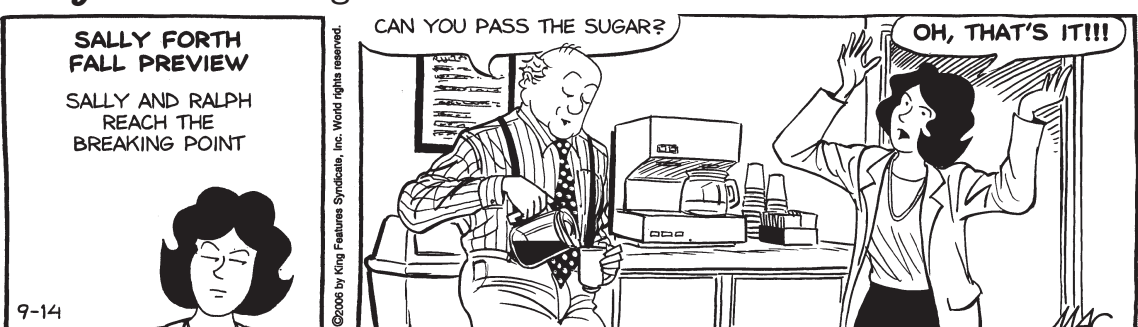
Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Woman makes play for ex-husband



Abigail Van Buren

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: A few months ago, my husband and I had to go back to our home state for a family funeral. We have been married more than 25 years. While we were there, his ex-wife came to his father's home (we were staying there), and later to the visitation and funeral. She and I seemed to hit it off well. On the way home, my hubby told me she waited until I left the room, then kissed him on the cheek in front of the whole family and told him she still loves him. That's not all. I asked him if, for one minute, he was sorry he had married me. He said, and I quote, "No, but if I had known she still loved me, I would have never remarried." I was crushed. After we got home he told me he would not leave me for her, but if I should die before him, he would be knocking on her door. That also hurt. Abby, she hadn't seen him or anyone else in the family for 25 years! Why would she even show up at the funeral if not for wanting to see if she could get back with him? I can't seem to get over the feeling that my husband never was really in love with me — that maybe he just married me so he would not be alone. What should I do? Should I even bring this subject up to him again? It has been five months and I am ...

BROKENHEARTED IN FLORIDA
DEAR BROKENHEART-

ED: Your husband appears to lack sensitivity, good judgment and empathy for the feelings of others. He also appears to lack common sense, if he expected you would not take his comments personally. I don't think raising the subject would get you the result you are looking for. But my advice is not to obsess about this. It's water under the bridge, and possession is nine points of the law. Besides, women have a longer life expectancy than men, so the odds are in your favor.

DEAR ABBY: I am writing about the letter you printed from "Wondering," whose parents don't want her to attend the same college as her brother. I think her parents should allow her to go to the same college. She will have completely different experiences than her brother — joining different clubs, playing different sports. If her major is different, she won't even have the same classes that he does. Her college life will be entirely different because each person gets out of the experience what he or she puts into it.

Also, I do not understand her parents' statement that she look elsewhere because she has "followed her brother" through school. If they lived in the same house, then they would've attended the same schools in their district.

— PAULAIN WENONAH, N.J.

DEAR PAULA: I told "Wondering" that her parents appeared to be intelligent people, sensitive to the needs of both of their offspring, and that having a college experience entirely on her own could be a growth opportunity for her. My reasoning was as follows: The parents know her and her brother well, their personalities, their strengths and their weaknesses. It is possible that the son has always been a "big man on campus," and "Wondering" has coasted along in his reflected glory. Or, if the reverse is true — and the girl has always outshone her brother — then the young man should not have to be overshadowed once again by his sibling at the same college. That said, not one reader I heard from — and I heard from quite a few — agreed with my answer. Ouch!

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

South dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

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

WEST
♠ Q J 7 2
♥ 8 6
♦ 10 7 5 4 3
♣ K 9

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

SOUTH
♠ A K 6
♥ A Q 10 9 3
♦ A 6
♣ Q 7 4

The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ Pass 3♥ Pass
4NT Pass 5♦ Pass
5NT Pass 6♦ Pass

Opening lead — queen of spades.

With a Little Bit of Luck

On many hands, declarer is faced with what appears to be a 50-50 chance for the contract, depending on where a certain card is located. If one opponent has it, he will succeed; if the other opponent has it, he will fail.

However, a resourceful declarer can often improve on a 50-50 chance, so that even if the key card is unfavorably placed, he might still survive. Take this deal where the outcome seems to rest only on which defender has the king of clubs. The standard play is to lead toward the queen at some point, and if East has the king, South's troubles are over.

The other possibility, that West has the king, is the chief cause for concern, and that was where South concentrated his attention. He won the spade lead with the king and cashed the A-K of trumps. Next came a spade to the ace and a spade ruff in dummy. South then cashed the A-K of diamonds, thus completing all the key preliminary steps.

With all the spades and diamonds eliminated from both his own hand and dummy, declarer now cashed the ace of clubs and returned a low club toward his queen. When East followed suit with the ten, it seemed that South had to guess whether to play the queen and hope East had the king, or play low and hope West now had the king alone. (If West had the K-J at this stage, the party was over.)

However, thanks to South's advance preparations, it did not matter which of these two situations existed — he could cover both possibilities by playing the queen. When West took the queen with the king, he was forced to return a spade or a diamond. This allowed South to discard his remaining club while trumping in dummy, and the slam came rolling home.

Cryptoquip

CGOFJYFJT OWHJ ZYWZ PMHFC

VHZY TUMR W SHUHSGS TP

VHUE JFCHCZWUBF: ZYF

WFJTERUWSHB EGT.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF YOUR PLACE OF BUSINESS FIRES ALL OF ITS PROFESSIONAL COPYISTS, IS IT DE-SCRIBED?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Z equals T

Family Circus • Bil Keane



9-14
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"Can I have the rest of this cookie I ate half of?"

Crossword

ACROSS
1 Seagull's cousin
5 "2001" computer
8 Just one of those things?
12 Hodge-podge
13 Stout kin
14 Prego competitor
15 Datum
16 A Bobbsey twin
17 Privy to
18 Nasty
20 Blurry spot
22 Watch chain
23 Lennon's lady
24 Pale
27 Did
32 Legume
33 Coll. student's no.
34 Diva's problem

DOWN
35 "Idylls of the King" author
38 Incite
39 Conk out
40 Bug spray
42 Jeff Gordon's org.
45 Scraped knee, e.g.
49 Hautboy
50 Judge Lance
52 Bosc or Bartlett
53 Vagrants
54 Cattle call
55 Types
56 Proof-reader's comment
57 Cartoon squeal
58 Addition-ally
1 Bean curd
2 Verve
3 "Casa-blanca" name
4 Inform
5 Purses
6 Carte lead-in
7 Lorgnette part
8 In three parts
9 Relinquish
10 Enthusiastic
11 Melody
19 "You must be joking"
21 Miss Piggy's pronoun
24 Suitable
25 Witness
26 Good-looking
28 Navy rank (Abbr.)
29 Manual
30 Ovum
31 Female rabbit
36 Most courteous
37 Nay doer
38 Unimprovable place
41 Accomplish
42 His — (cribbage term)
43 Touch
44 Frost
46 Watson's co-worker
47 Erstwhile acorns
48 Roughly
51 Sock part

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 9-14

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