Both sides vulnerable. NORTH **♥**AJ543 10 5 春 A 8 6 WEST **♠** J 5 3 Q 10 8 6 **♦** Q 9 7 ◆ K 6 4 春 Q J 10 SOUTH K 7 6 The bidding: East South Pass Pass queen of clubs. Opening lead

## A Case of Heart Trouble

Today's deal features a card combination that is commonly misplayed. Let's say declarer wins the club lead with the king and plays the king and another heart. When West shows out, South is in serious trouble. Assuming reasonable defense, the best he can do is score two spades, three hearts, a diamond

more carefully. He should recognize that three notrump is ice-cold if he can score four heart tricks, and all his thoughts should be concentrated on that one goal. Since there is no danger of going down if the hearts are divided 3-2, South should ask himself how he can

protect against a 4-1 division. If he addresses him-

But declarer has a lock on the contract if he plays

self to that possibility, he finds there is a way to play the hearts so as to overcome a holding of four to the Q-10 in either opponent's hand. As we have seen, leading the king and another heart fails if East has Q-10-x-x. However, the proper way to initiate the suit is to lead a low heart to the ace! If both defenders follow low, South continues with a

low heart from dummy, and: 1. If East shows out, South tas the king and leads the nine toward the jack to assure four heart tricks.

2. If East follows low, South plays the nine to guarantee four heart tricks whether the nine wins or loses.

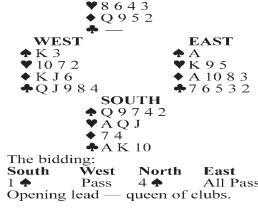
3. If East produces the ten or queen, South wins with the king and returns the nine to assure four heart

A player who optimistically proceeds on the assumption that a suit will be favorably divided is guilty of negligence and will occasionally have to pay the piper for his carelessness.

NORTH

**♠** J 10 8 6 5

#### **Bridge** South dealer. East-West vulnerable



# Try the Impossible

A fine declarer makes not only the contracts he's supposed to make, but also some that appear impossible to make. Whenever a contract seems hopeless on the surface, a conscientious declarer will burrow beneath to see whether a particular distribution of the adverse cards will permit the hand to be made. There may be no solution in some cases, but declarer is dutybound to look for one. Consider this hand played many years ago by Louis P. Frank, New York attorney. He got to four spades, and West led the queen of clubs. Apparently, two spades, two diamonds and possibly a heart had to be lost. But Frank made the contract, despite the bleak outlook, by adopting a line of play that gave him a chance.

He began by ruffing the club in dummy and finessed the queen of hearts. When the queen held, he ruffed the king of clubs and finessed the jack of hearts. He then cashed the ace of hearts and ruffed his last club, the ace. Now he led dummy's established heart.

If East trumped with the ace, South would have discarded a diamond and made the contract without further ceremony. But East made the more natural play of discarding the eight of diamonds, whereupon Frank discarded a diamond and West ruffed.

West then led the king of diamonds, followed by the jack. Frank ruffed and returned a spade, felling the king and ace together. That was the third and last trick for the defense.

Of course, had West led a diamond initially, Frank would have had no chance. And even after the opening club lead, he had to be lucky to find East with the king of hearts and the hearts divided 3-3, and to get a

favorable trump division besides. But if you don't play for miracles in such hands, they won't happen. You'll also never wind up with

## your name in the newspaper. Family Circus • Bill Keane



"He's older than you, Billy. You'll have to settle for Camp Backyard."

Crossword ACROSS OH, I AM SO P HAS TED STOPPED NO, BUT HE'S WORN **1** Ottoman SHAVING YET? SORRY, SAL. TRUST HIS "HANDS ACROSS AMERICA" T-SHIRT ME, I KNOW HOW FOR 3 DAYS STRAIGHT. THAT FEELS. 4 Braving 7 Prejudice 44 Tiny 11 "No ifs, 13 Spot on a 14 Aware of **15** Cornfield

41 Liver-

official

beast

ands,

or —

domino

invader

living

uals

of the

family

call

24 Touch-

**28** No

tone

32 Isolated

James

33 Author

**34** Paving

36 Greek

gunk

vowel 37 Startle

39 Arrested

15

18

33

37

56

59

**ACROSS** 

1 Cushiony

**5** "See ya!"

8 Staffer

Cosby

Show'

mouse!"

14 "American

**15** BB gun

17 Stagger

19 Wire

voyage!"

measure

**20** Practices

boxing

21 Suitable

22 Greet the

villain

Marie's

dad

26 Scrap

30 "Cheers'

offering

whelmed

wonder

31 Embrace

32 Cattle

33 Over-

with

35 Macho

type

**36** Eg. and

12

Syr., once

**23** Lisa

son

**12** "The

12

feature

purebred

cashew

product

pool's

river

dish

43 Luau side

branch

measures

46 Medica-

tion

50 Leslie

Caron

role

**53** Sprite

**55** Troop

56 Leif's

group

father

tox

**57** Appomat-

surren-

garment

derer

58 Ganges

**59** Hallow-

face

moisture

**61** Apiece

DOWN

1 Basic

2 Mentor

4 Mimic

5 Mono-

6 Orate

theist

of India

7 Destiny's

Child

8 Hostel

9 Noshed

12 Boastful

wand

21 Meadow

23 Encoun-

tered

Solution time: 24 mins.

D O E R R I G D E M I

SETFREE DOLCE

Saturday's answer 5-28

13

16

57

60

**37** Lustrous

black

piece

**38** Parsley

41 Each

42 Obtain

**45** Owl's

call

**46** Cager's

even

close

48 Actress

49 Squid

squirt

50 Arizona

city

stay-at-

brickwork

home

**53** Juror, in

theory

16

**51** No

**52** Do

Jessica

attempts

that aren't **5** Suit

DOWN

1 Impale

home

3 Flower-

less

plant

4 Ander-

sons

6 Holler

7 Supple-

ment,

9 Notion

one

angles

minions

16 Satan's

**20** Brillo

Solution time: 21 mins.

Yesterday's answer 5-29

10 Busy

11 Right

with "out"

downdraft

8 Localized

"High —"

SELESTAR

officer's

learning

3 Fermi's bit

bruin

stake

26 Initial

27 Out of

play

part

29 Coquet-

tish

30 In the

hood

around

31 Once

the

10 "Mayday!" 35 Sartorial

19 Scoundrel 40 Affirma-

track

woe

38 Kitten's

comment

action?

42 Relin-

47 Break

48 Green

land

**49** Mix

50 Jewel

**52** USO

14

51 Savings

acronym

audience

54 A handful

26 25

48

**21** Imaginary

mous

23 Recede

McKern

coucn

potato

27 Intention

28 Genetics

abbr.

maiden

34 Trail the

pack

additive

37 Moving in

fits and

starts

38 Carpet

type

play?

40 Judicial

raiment

41 — colada

43 Otherwise

44 Despot

46 Have a

bug

concert

need

47 Rock

42 Mirth

39 Horse

**35 KFC** 

**29** Lair

**31** Yon

24 Actor

25 Be a

26 Flop

instrument

58

2 Columbus' 22 Ginor-

quish

45 Merriment

suddenly

glance

neighbor-

counter-

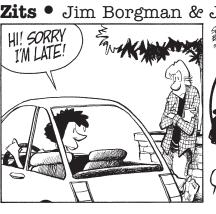
**28** Sir's

**Zits** • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott

Sally Forth • Greg Howard

I'M IN NO MOOD TO "BANTER" WITH YOU,

RALPH. MY HUSBAND WAS JUST LAID OFF







**Hagar the Horrible •** Chris Browne



**Blondie •** Chic Young







**Beetle Bailey •** Mort Walker

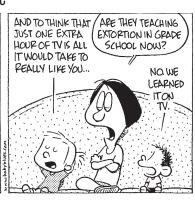




Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott







**Tod the Dinosaur** • Patrick Roberts









**Mother Goose and Grimm •** Mike Peters



Cryptoquip







# CUBV L CXHJ ROFXVM XW

LGROF FR RQQOE, QROHJ

WLN FULF CROHJNRO

L DBVJXVM WDEBB? G B Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A GUY IS RESTING HIS BARE FEET ON A BARROOM SEAT, YOU MIGHT FIND YOURSELF A TOED STOOL.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: F equals T

SIKHV OYYHXVY FISN,

OUTING IŠ ABOUT TO OCCUR, COULD YOU SAY THAT WOULD BE A PENDING SPREE?

IWYGHMVTO PKRFYG ZXGOS? Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN A WILD Today's Cryptoquip Clue: X equals A

RMVTO X NRXPP VGIKZ IC 28 CKOKGY PIVVYGN TXWY XH 39 40 42 43 48 49