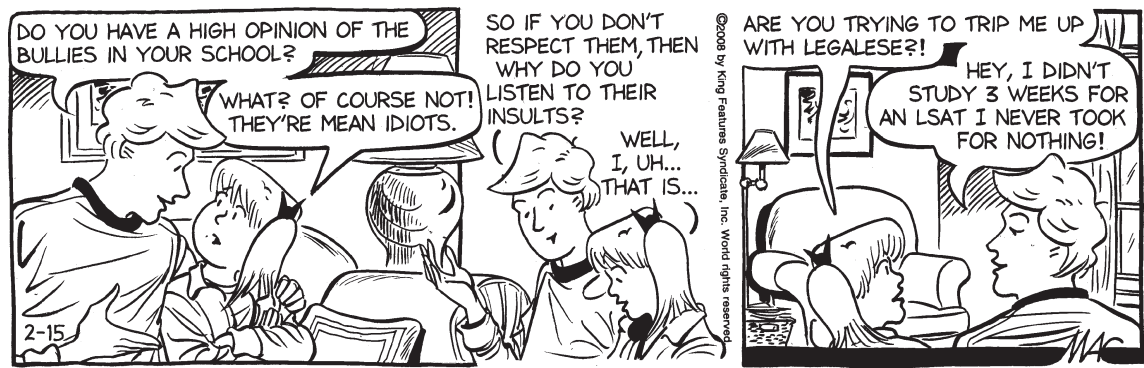
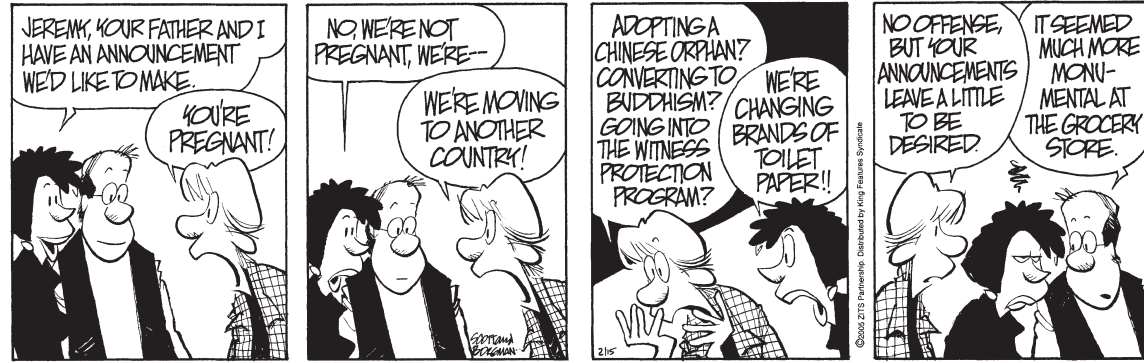


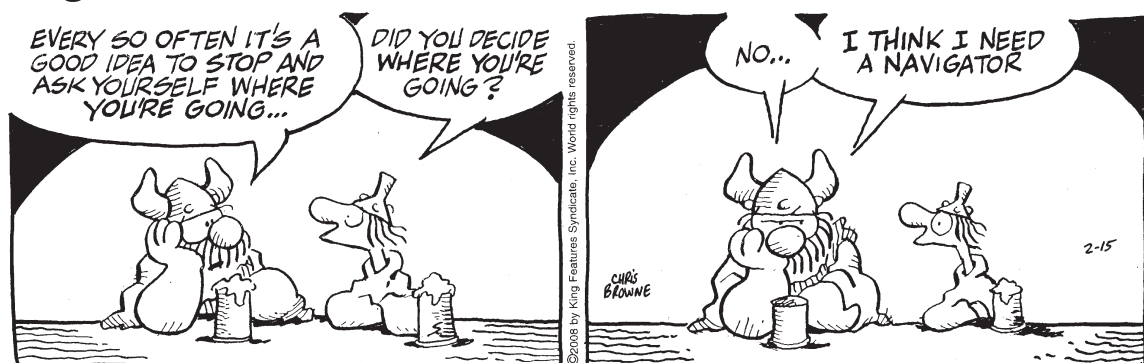
**Sally Forth • Greg Howard**



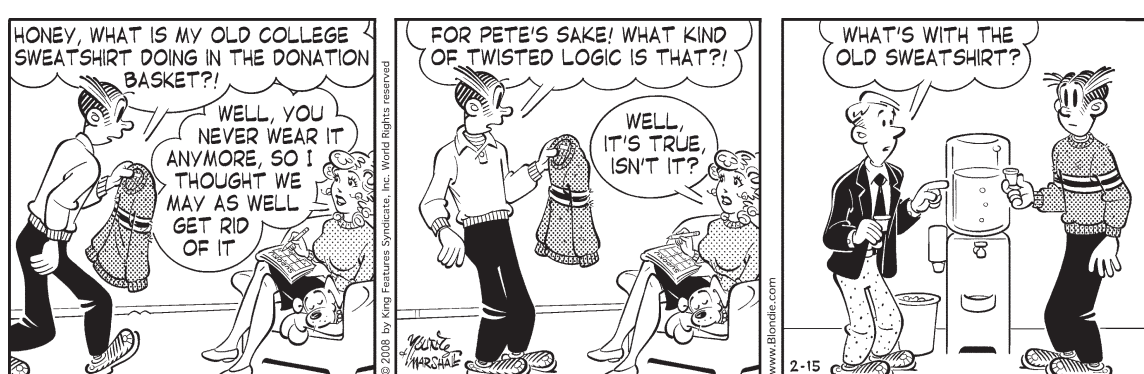
**Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott**



**Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne**



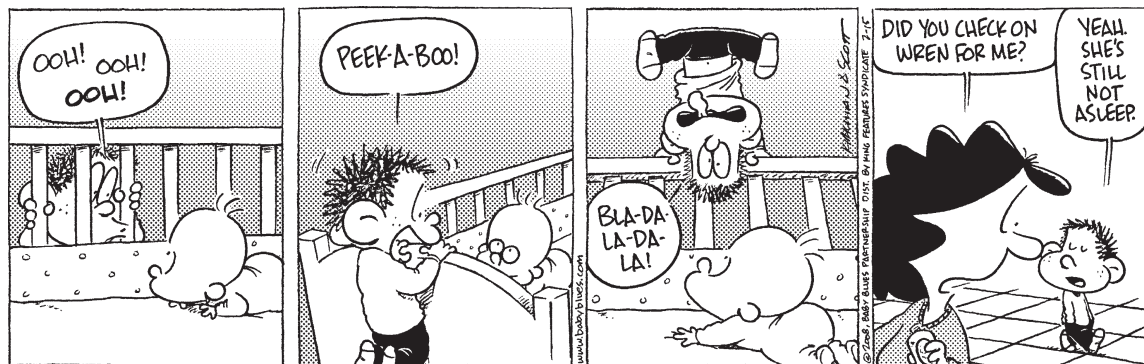
**Blondie • Chic Young**



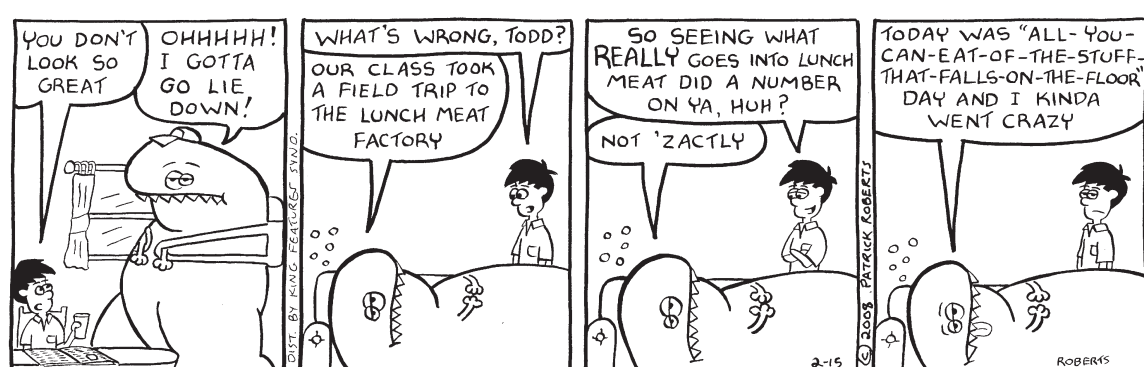
**Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker**



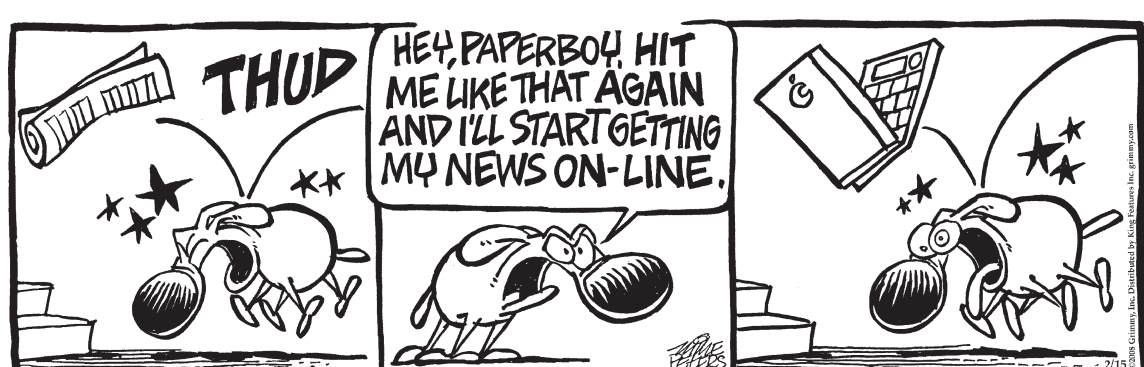
**Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott**



**Tod the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts**



**Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters**



**Cryptoquip**

SW LNJVYGSRD IVBV QCTFVE CDAU AVWRXWUN HZU DXBD  
MVRVTYG T DBVVR FSYBKL JZXHUB O RHXOE, CWZEJ  
WBKSY, S LKQQLV SY YAWYEA KEOXV RDOR RDAHA'N  
INKCE MV LKM-CSJV "OHJWH XU RDA KWZHR"?  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: MAGAZINE FEATURING ZINGING RESPONSES FROM UNSATISFIED PRODUCT USERS: "CONSUMER RETORTS."  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals E  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF SOMETHING WERE PLACED BENEATH A GREEN CITRUS FRUIT, I SUPPOSE IT WOULD BE SUB-LIME.  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals H

**Crossword**

- ACROSS**  
1 Tummy muscles  
4 Fill a suitcase  
8 Therefore  
12 Homer's interjection  
13 — vera  
14 Angel's prop  
15 Final performance  
17 Seaweed  
18 Tree house?  
19 Draw a conclusion  
20 Texas A&M student  
22 Watch noise  
24 Wonka creator  
25 1933 Marx Brothers movie  
29 Palindromic title  
30 Maguire of "Spider-Man"
- DOWN**  
31 Street address?  
32 Convict quickly and falsely  
34 Plumbing problem  
35 Hightails it from the law  
36 Anti-macassar  
37 Inexpensive  
40 — and crafts  
41 Actor Neeson  
42 Fit together  
46 Gumbo need  
47 Vicinity  
48 FDR's "Blue Eagle"
- ACROSS**  
49 Longings  
50 Bacterium  
51 Wage earner's woe  
16 Armstrong or Simon  
19 Disgusting  
20 Hebrew month  
21 Enthusiastic  
22 Oom-pah producers  
23 On the rocks  
25 Unhappy destiny  
26 Deferential  
27 Caspian feeder  
28 Sluggish  
30 Snare  
33 Andean herd  
34 Mississippi ex-senator  
36 Reverie  
37 Cause a surfeit  
38 Raise  
39 Deserve  
40 State with conviction  
42 Hammar-skjöld of the U.N.  
43 Raw rock  
44 401(k) alternative  
45 Remiss

Solution time: 25 mins.

ELLE	ILL	SPEW
LIEN	SEA	TOGO
SEEN	ADS	ERGO
EUROPA	AIN	T
BACK	GROUND	
SPILL	INK	GOO
NAME	PTA	MAGS
AIM	DOE	FALSE
GROUND	RULE	
BRAC	MYSELF	
CRIB	ALB	T SAR
HULA	SIR	RARE
AMEN	TEA	OUST

Yesterday's answer 2-15

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12			13					14			
15			16					17			
		18						19			
20	21					22	23				
24				25					26	27	28
29			30						31		
32			33						34		
			35						36		
37	38	39				40					
41				42	43				44	45	
46				47					48		
49				50					51		

- ACROSS**  
1 Vacationing  
5 Puts into the mix  
9 Chatter  
12 Options list  
13 Security breach  
14 Right angle  
15 Flash Gordon foe  
16 Cautious  
17 As well  
18 Sandwich treat  
19 Skill  
20 Whoopi's show, with "The"  
21 Agent  
23 Outer (Pref.)  
25 Aesop's lore  
28 Din  
32 Show spike  
33 Jockey Cauthen  
34 Astute  
36 Packed away  
37 George's brother  
38 Standard  
39 Hirt hit  
42 Sick
- DOWN**  
44 Vagrant  
48 N.A. nation  
49 Bewildered  
50 Monad  
51 USO audience, often  
52 Conks out  
53 Money  
54 Perched  
55 Egyptian cross  
56 Scandinavian city  
20 "Les Miserables" author  
22 First name of director  
3 Boleyn or Bancroft  
4 Serbia and Montenegro, once  
5 Nonstop  
6 Cherished  
7 Cormorant's cousin  
8 Firmament  
9 Bigfoot's kin  
10 Lotion additive  
11 Farm implement  
22 "Les Miserables" author  
23 First name of director  
24 High-carb entree
- DOWN**  
25 Media agcy.  
26 The whole shootin' match  
27 Spell-down  
29 Melbourne suburb  
30 First lady  
31 Williams of baseball lore  
35 1973 Hansberry-based musical  
36 1984 mermaid movie  
39 Moonshine containers  
40 Largest of the seven  
41 Expansive  
43 Welsh emblem  
45 Individuals  
46 Tab  
47 Sgt. Snorkel's dog  
49 Oklahoma city

Solution time: 27 mins.

ABS	PACK	THUS
DOH	ALOE	HARP
SWANS	ONG	ALGA
NEST	INF	R
AGGIE	TICK	
DAHL	DUCK	SOUP
AGA	T	OB
RAILROAD	LEAK	
LAMS	DOILLY	
CHEAP	ARTS	
LIAM	DOVETAIL	
OKRA	AREA	NRA
YENS	GERM	TAX

Yesterday's answer 2-16

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12				13				14			
15				16				17			
18				19				20			
		21	22			23	24				
25	26	27				28		29	30	31	
32							33				
34				35			36				
			37				38				
39	40	41		42	43			44	45	46	47
48				49					50		
51				52					53		
54				55					56		

**Bridge**

You are South, neither side vulnerable. The bidding has been:  
West North East South  
1♦ 1♠ Pass ?  
What would you bid with each of the following five hands?  
1. ♠A72 ♥1085 ♦63 ♣KQJ43  
2. ♠K984 ♥AK872 ♦53 ♣74  
3. ♠QJ ♥KJ94 ♦865 ♣KJ82  
4. ♠A9643 ♥K7 ♦10 ♣KQ954  
5. ♠Q8 ♥AQ2 ♦QJ95 ♣KQ83  
\*\*\*

**Bidding Quiz**

- Two spades. An overall on the one-level is more often than not based on a hand that would not qualify as an opening bid. However, since a simple overall can contain up to 16 or 17 points, game is not an impossibility opposite the hand you hold here, and this can best be explored by raising spades. It would be wrong to bid two clubs, as this would deny support for spades and would normally be read by partner as a corrective action. Partner might very well pass two clubs, which is unlikely to be in your side's best interests.
  - Three spades. This is a stronger game try than two spades. However, the jump-raise is not forcing and allows partner to pass if his overall is of the minimum variety.
  - Two spades. It is very unusual to raise partner with only two trumps, but here there is no better bid available. To pass with 11 points and a partial trump fit would show a thorough lack of respect for partner's overall, and to bid two clubs or two hearts on a four-card suit is unthinkable. North is entitled to some form of encouragement, and two spades comes closest to filling the bill.
  - Four spades. The odds strongly favor making four spades, and that's a good-enough reason for bidding it straightaway. Opposite a typical one-spade overall, this hand is highly unlikely to lose four tricks.
  - Three notrump. It would be wrong to bid only two notrump, which would permit partner to pass. It is bad policy to merely invite a game that you already know is an odds-on favorite.
- One way of estimating your chances for game is to credit partner with roughly 10 points for his overall, which would give your side the 26 points normally needed for game.

South dealer. North-South vulnerable.

<b>NORTH</b>		<b>EAST</b>	
♠A	♠9 7 5 4	♠9	♠K Q J 10 8 3
♥9 7 5 4	♥8 7 3	♥A	♥J 10 6
♦A K 8 2		♦Q	♦J 7 3
<b>WEST</b>		<b>SOUTH</b>	
♠Q 10 8 6 4 3	♠A 2	♠K J 7 5 2	♠6
♥A	♥Q 10 6 5 4	♥A K Q 5 4 2	♥9

The bidding:  
South 1♦  
West 2♠  
North 3♣  
East 3♥  
Pass 4♦  
Pass 4♠  
Pass 6♦  
Opening lead — ace of hearts.

**The Happenstance Squeeze**

Most squeezes must be carefully planned by declarer, but sometimes he just falls into them in the natural course of events. Here is one of the latter sort. South reached six diamonds, lost the opening heart trick and trumped West's heart continuation.  
The slam would have been a cinch to make if the adverse diamonds had divided 2-1. In that case, South would have drawn trumps in two rounds, discarded a spade loser on a top club and eventually trumped his two remaining spade losers in dummy. But when East showed up with all three diamonds, declarer realized he could not successfully ruff two spade losers in dummy, since East would overruff. So South instead drew all three of East's diamonds and then led a spade to the ace, creating this position:  
North  
[H] 97  
[D] 9  
[C] AK 82  
West  
[S] Q 10 8  
[C] Q 10 6 5  
East  
[H] QJ 10 3  
[C] J 7 3  
South  
[S] KJ 7 5  
[D] 5 4  
[C] 9  
When declarer next led dummy's seven of hearts and ruffed it, West was placed in a most unhappy position. If he discarded a spade, South would make the rest of the tricks by ruffing a spade in dummy, after And if West chose to discard a club instead, South would make the rest of the tricks by cashing the A-K of clubs and ruffing a club, establishing dummy's last club as his 12th trick. As we said at the start, some squeezes you just fall into.

**Family Circus • Bill Keane**

