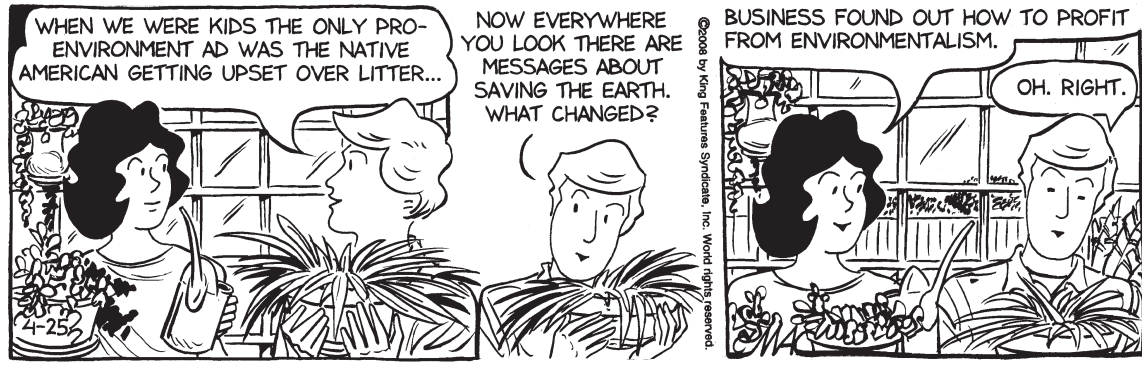
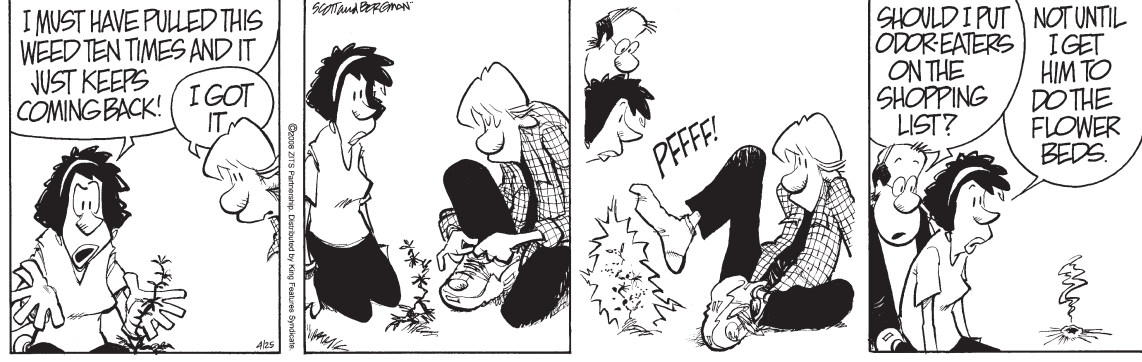


Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



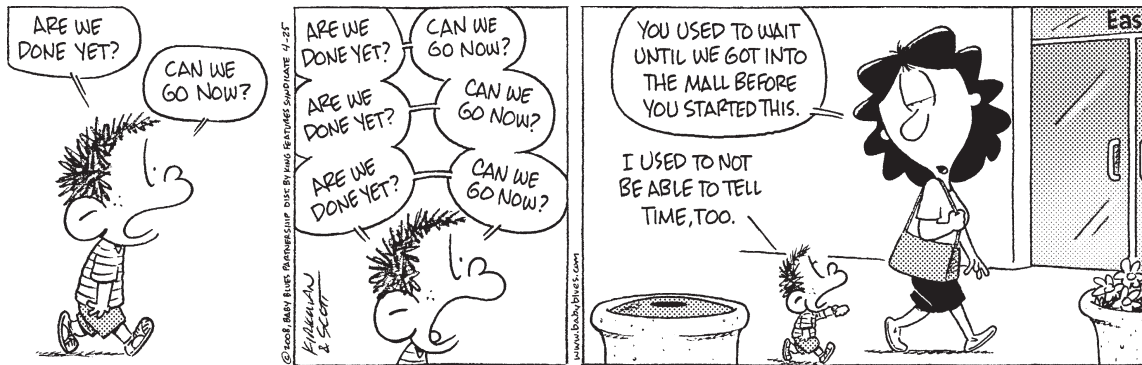
Blondie • Chic Young



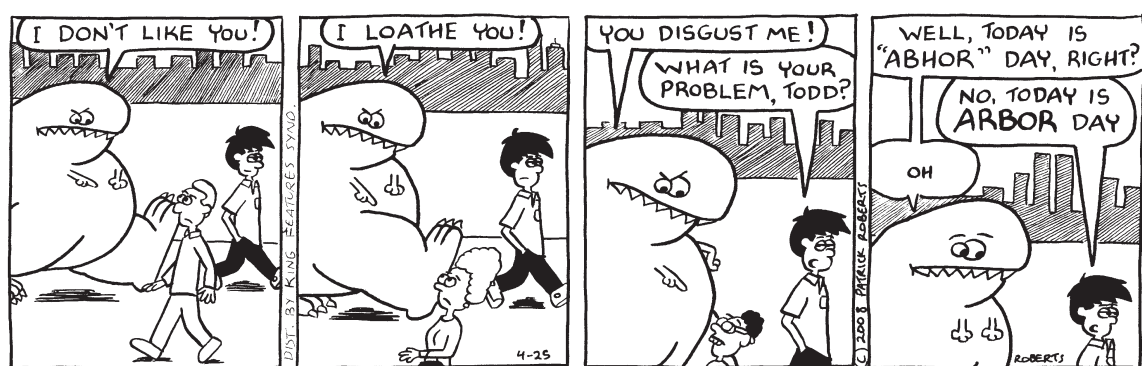
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



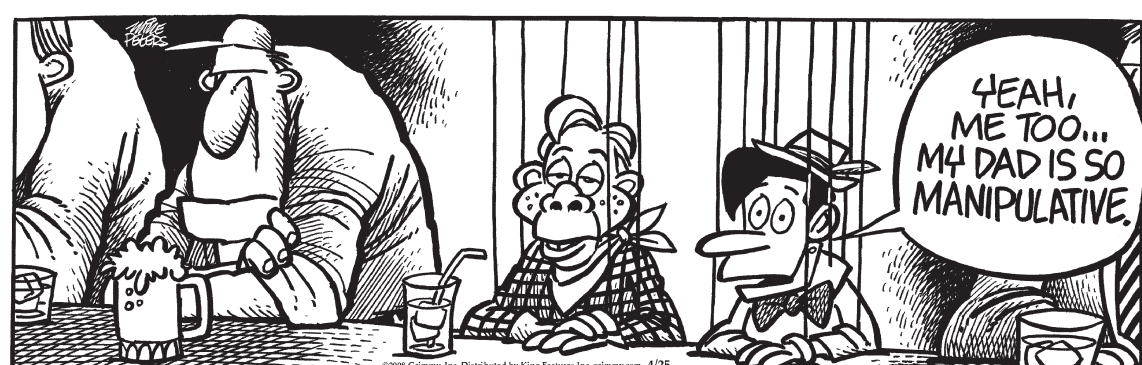
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Tod the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Cryptoquip

YVUUAYCPL C IA YAWFRGCPL RO P OVWDRSGDW BVXDK
 RGSR JFSKKQ UFFTFY S RGCV P BRCT PGM RK PYY QT
 KCRRKF HCI, QAV WCLGR URXKDYO, XRSUC UD QD
 YSQ CR'Y RAR-UJATAHCPL. BPYDYM CUD YVGD KCWPGSDW?
 Yesterday's Cryptoquip: KIDS' TUNE SUPPOSING I DO
 CONCERNING A GIRL WHO WAS EATING A TASTY SOMETHING THAT REALLY PEEVES A LITTLE
 MOLLUSK: "MARY HAD A LITTLE CLAM." KID, YOU MIGHT SAY IT'S TOT-PROVOKING.
 Today's Cryptoquip Clue: R equals T Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals E

Crossword

ACROSS 44 Pastime for Prince Charles 45 "I, Robot" author 47 Furnish as one's own 52 Falsehood 53 Russian space-craft 54 Nubs 55 Ar follower 56 Vanna's cohort 57 Available

DOWN 1 Light application 2 Blunder or Bean 29 Summer ermines 31 Reservation residence 35 Frail 37 Sketch 38 Tweak 41 TV lawyer Stone 43 Raw rock

3 Condi-tional stipulation 4 Seize 5 Zoo howler 6 Show up 7 String quorum 9 Place 10 Basket-ball challenge game 11 Fireplace tidbit 17 Having vessels, like a leaf 19 "— Were the Days" 21 Billboards "A Lesson From —" 42 Adult insect 45 Sarah McLach-lan song 46 Valhalla VIP 48 Urchin 50 Bake sale org. 51 Recipe meas.

Solution time: 25 mins.

P	A	S	S	Y	E	W	S	T	O	P			
E	R	A	T	A	R	I	H	A	L	L			
A	C	R	E	S	E	T	O	S	L	O			
S	H	I	L	O	H	A	H	A	W	H	A	W	
				A	R	M	L	E	K				
P	U	C	E	A	P	P	A	R	E	N	T		
A	N	A	K	E	A	K	E	A	N	E	O		
M	I	S	C	A	S	T	S	T	E	W			
				H	A	M		H	M				
L	I	M	P	I	D		M	A	U	L	E	D	
O	R	E	O		A	L	T		T	I	T	O	
C	O	R	N		M	E	N		T	E	A	M	
K	O	R	N	E		P	T	A		Y	U	L	E

Yesterday's answer 4-25

Bridge

1. You are declarer with the West hand at Three Notrump. North leads the seven of hearts, on which South plays the ten. How would you play the hand?

West
 ♠ Q 8 2
 ♥ K J 8
 ♦ Q J 10
 ♣ A 10 6 3

East
 ♠ A K 3
 ♥ 6 2 5
 ♦ A J 9 7 4
 ♣ —

2. This is a double-dummy problem. South is declarer, clubs are trumps, and West leads the king of hearts. How can declarer win six of the seven remaining tricks, assuming the best possible defense by East-West?

North
 ♠ J 9 3
 ♥ K 10 6 4

West
 ♠ K O 7
 ♥ A 5 3 2

East
 ♠ 10
 ♥ 8 6 5 4 2
 ♦ J
 ♣ —

South
 ♠ —
 ♥ 3
 ♦ Q 9 8
 ♣ J 10 5

Test Your Play

1. There is no way to be certain of the location of the missing queen of clubs, but it is easy to assure the contract by exercising reasonable care. All you have to do is to win the first trick with the heart jack and lead a low club to dummy's king, planning to take a club finesse through South next. If the finesse wins, you are certain of 10 tricks. If it loses, you are still sure of nine tricks, whatever North returns.

South is the defender you can't afford to have on lead, since he might be able to do you in with a heart return through your K-8. You therefore play the clubs so that if you do lose a trick to the queen, North will be the player who winds up on lead.

2. Declarer ruffs the heart lead and returns the queen of diamonds. West cannot afford to take the ace, which would greatly simplify declarer's task, so he plays low. South overtakes the queen with the king, ruffs the nine of hearts in his hand and leads the nine of diamonds.

Again West must follow low, whereupon South overtakes the nine with the ten and ruffs dummy's last heart. Now South leads the eight of diamonds. West has the A-5 of diamonds at this point, while dummy has the 6-4. Whatever West does, declarer wins one more diamond trick to fulfill his mission.

Contract — Seven Notrump, played by South.

NORTH
 ♠ A K Q 4
 ♥ A 10 6
 ♦ Q 9 8
 ♣ 8 6 4

WEST
 ♠ J 10 8 7
 ♥ K Q J 4
 ♦ 7 4
 ♣ Q J 10

EAST
 ♠ 9 6 3
 ♥ 9 8 3
 ♦ 5 3 2
 ♣ 7 5 3 2

SOUTH
 ♠ 5 2
 ♥ 7 5 2
 ♦ A K J 10 6
 ♣ A K 9

Opening lead — king of hearts.

A Bridge Player's Nightmare

No bidding is given with this hand because the deal itself is a fictional one in which the final contract of seven notrump -- a bad contract if ever there was one -- would never be reached in actual practice.

The hand is given to demonstrate one of the rarest plays in bridge. In order to preserve whatever chance there is to make all 13 tricks, it behooves declarer to win the opening lead with the ace of hearts. The next question is how to make all the tricks when there are only 11 in view. What's more, there does not even appear to be the semblance of a 12th trick, let alone a 13th. Nevertheless, all the tricks can be made, and, strange to say, it is not even a difficult proposition. All that needs to be done is to start playing, and 13 tricks fall right into your lap.

The first thing to do is to cash all five diamond tricks. You safely discard a heart and a club from dummy, but if you put yourself in West's shoes, you will find yourself faced with a situation that no aspirin West can discard two of his hearts on the third and fourth diamonds, but what can he discard on the fifth diamond? He will have to release a spade, a heart or a club, and as soon as he parts with any one of them, you automatically gain your 12th trick.

Not only that, but whichever suit he unguards subjects him to another squeeze when you cash the trick he has just established for you, compelling him to unguard one of his two remaining suits. As soon as he does that, you gain trick No. 13.

This could go on forever if there were more suits in the deck for West to guard, but there's no need to be sadistic. Poor West has already suffered enough.

Family Circus • Bill Keane

