

Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Blondie • Chic Young



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker

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Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Cross	vord
ACROSS	35 Fire a gun 2 — En-lai 23 Cut the
1 Pinnacle	36 Humor 3 Cookies' grass
5 Muham-	37 Plump mate 24 Book-
mad	38 Accordion 4 Conclude keeper
or Laila	feature 5 Accumu- (Abbr.)
8 Trucker's	41 Brooch late 25 Scoundre
cargo	42 Commer- 6 Chantilly, 26 — and
12 Leno	cials for one don'ts
feature	45 Light 7 Annoy 27 Menag-
13 Scratch	melody 8 Don't erie
14 Fairy tale	46 Rule let go, 28 ld
villain	48 Exis- whatever counter-
15 Restrain	tence, you do part
17 Misplace	to Caesar 9 Enthusi- 29 " or
18 "Gross!"	49 Under astic — to
19 Work	the 10 — Major be"
with	weather 11 Ogle 31 Lustrous
20 Mystery	50 Deserve 16 Inter black
writers'	51 Mimicry 20 A long, 34 Torched
award	specialist long 35 Beach
21 Day	52 Plaything time stuff
fractions	53 Youngster 21 Make 37 Mare-to-
(Abbr.)	sense be
22 Poker	DOWN 22 Pirate's 38 Entreaty
winnings	1 Sore prosthesis 39 Speech
23 Cohort of	Solution time: 21 mins problem
Kirk and	40 Otherwise
Spock	ABET PER PORE 41 Horse-
26 Dweller	NOAH TEAEXIT back
30 October	
stone	HARDTOP LISLE 42 Vacation-
31 Trot	ALOEKOINADA ing
32 Disco	43 Gloomy
style	IDEASEPILA 44 "Auld
33 Walks	BOARARM EATS Lang—"
like a	ARID REO STEP 46 Smack
duck	Vostorday's answer too
	resiciual s answer 4-29

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stuffer?

picture

43 Melody

41 PC

DOWN

2 Wear

a rut

1 Convince

edge

24 Lennon's

ladv

applause

filler

loudly

Bridge

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A Crucial Decision

How to play a particular suit combination is governed not only by the composition of the suit itself but also by the reality of what will give you the best chance to make the contract.

Take this typical case where declarer is faced with a crucial guess in trumps. West leads a club, ruffed by South. There is no good reason not to lead trumps, so South plays a low spade to the queen, losing to East's ace.

Back comes a club, declarer ruffing again. Now South leads a low heart to dummy's queen and returns a trump. When East produces the eight, declarer has to choose between playing the ten or the king.

Ordinarily, South would play the king, because mathematically there is a slight advantage in playing for the jack to fall. But in this deal, South should play the ten for a very good reason. Playing the ten assures the contract, while playing the king jeopardizes it.

If the ten wins (because East has the jack), declarer cashes the king and loses at most two diamond tricks to make the contract.

If the ten loses (because West has the jack), South still has the situation firmly under control. Whatever West returns, declarer can eventually cash the A-K-J of hearts and discard three diamonds from dummy. Thus he loses only a diamond to the ace, ruffing his third diamond in dummy to avoid a second loser in the suit.

Note that if in the actual deal South plays the spade king instead of the ten at trick five, he goes down. When East gains the lead with the ace of diamonds, he cashes the jack of spades, removing dummy's last trump, and declarer winds up losing two diamonds and two spades to go down one.

North dealer. Both sides vulnerable. NORTH A K Q J 10 9 7 4 A A A 4						
₩E3 ◆ 8 5 ♥ Q 9 ◆ K 9 ◆ K 9	♣ A J ST 8 3 7 5 2	E∠ ◆ 6 1 ◆ 10 ◆ J	AST 2 0 7 2 10 5 3 2			
•K9753 •1064 SOUTH						
		654 76				
The bidding:						
North	East	South	West			
2 🕈	Pass	$2 \checkmark$	Pass			
2 T 4 NT	Pass		Pass			
5 NT	Pass	5 —	Pass			
6 NT	1 455	0 •	1 455			
Opening lead — eight of spades.						
- France						
One for the Books						

Tod the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Cryptoquip

LVQC AKB'JQ MAECO KC AKBJ	SR M TSXH CQJGSYC QDSWTC
ZXKTDUV KC D ZLQMXQJECO	JWGYX M LSIXFCIFZY, S
ZBTTQJ WDA, DJQ AKB	CJZZFCY KFJ IFJHG IMHH
W K E C O I D U S - I D S E C O L K J S ? Yesterday's Cryptoquip: AT THE SOAPMAKING PLANT, TWO WORKERS FALSELY ACCUSED OF SOMETHING SHOUTED "LYES! ALL LYES!" Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals R	D Y X M L M T W S R K S W T H M C C . Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN YOU'RE LYING ON YOUR STOMACH ON A SWELTERING SUMMER DAY, ARE YOU DOING BACK-BAKING WORK? Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals Y

	+• Molody und	ludy
gully	45 Prisoner in the	25 Harsh-
13 Illustra-	47 Theater rug	ness
tions	district 3 Leading	27 Neither
14 Reverber-	51 Aerobatic man?	partner
ate	stunt 4 Mature	29 Sticky
15 Mexican	52 Direct, 5 Historic	stuff
resort	vigorous telescope	30 Lamb's
city	participa- user	dam
17 "Dead	tion for a 6 Curved	32 AWOL, in
man's	cause path	a sense
hand"	54 Unrivaled 7 Reaches	34 Encour-
pair	55 Chart the end	age
18 Sanaa	format 8 Hippie's	37 Young 'un
dweller	56 Historic ancestor?	39 Henry —
19 Tiny	periods 9 Mishap	42 Minimum
21 Zilch	57 Terrier 10 Sharpen	range
22 Fax	type 11 Come in	tides
23 Feathery	58 — last	44 "Bolero"
acces-	Francisco 16 Monad	composer
sory		45 Misfor-
26 X rating?	Solution time: 21 mins.	tunes
28 Loyal		46 Recess
subject		48 Turkish
31 Formerly	YUKUSEEDGAR	money
33 Reaction	HRSPOT	49 Authori-
of awe		tarian
35 Recog-	WADDLESSHOOT	ruler
nize	W I T F A T	50 Russian
36 Bottom		city
of		53 Espio-
the rank-		nage
ings	Yesterday's answer 4-30	org.



This sensational deal occurred in the 1988 Goldman Pairs in New York City, an event that dates back to the earliest days of duplicate tournament bridge. In the nearly 80 years that the event has been contested, though, probably no one has ever been dealt a better hand than North's. North began the proceedings with an artificial, strong two-club bid. South made the natural response of two hearts, promising eight or more high-card points and a good suit, and one round of bidding later, North launched into Blackwood.

North's goal, of course, was to find out how many kings South held; any two would guarantee 13 tricks. But when South indicated only one king, North was faced with a bitter irony: Though he had 11 tricks in his own hand and his partner had another, 12 tricks might not be made if South's king was in hearts.

North could see little advantage to playing the slam in spades, so he bid six notrump, hoping to score 10 points more than those pairs who made six spades -an important consideration at matchpoint scoring.

West, holding all of his side's assets, chose a safe spade lead, and declarer now had to find a way to score a 12th trick. Essentially, his only hope was that the player with the king of clubs also held the king of diamonds. If so, the slam could not be defeated.

Accordingly, South won the spade lead and played five more spades, discarding three hearts and two diamonds. He then cashed the ace of hearts and ace of clubs before leading the club jack.

West won the trick but was endplayed in three suits. A heart lead would allow declarer to score the king, while a club return would give South the queen. West therefore tried the diamond nine, but declarer allowed this to run to his queen, and the slam was home.

Family Circus • Bill Keane



"Mommy, do we hafta have a reason for a hug?"