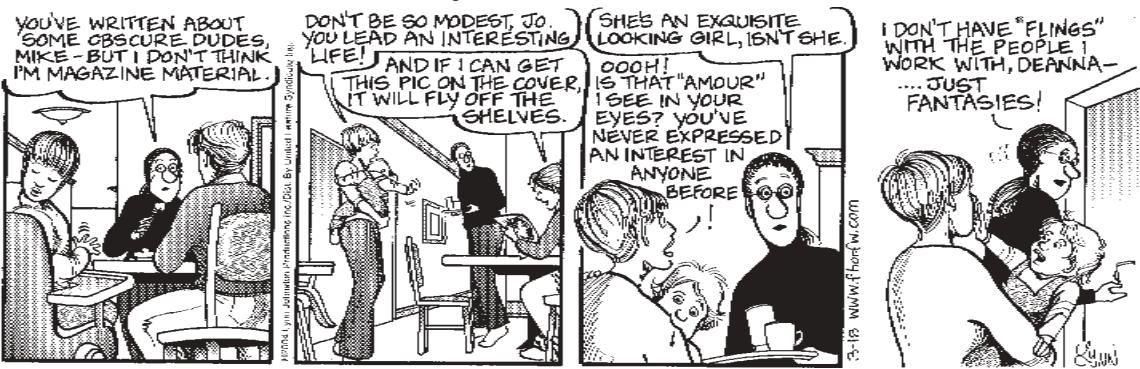


For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



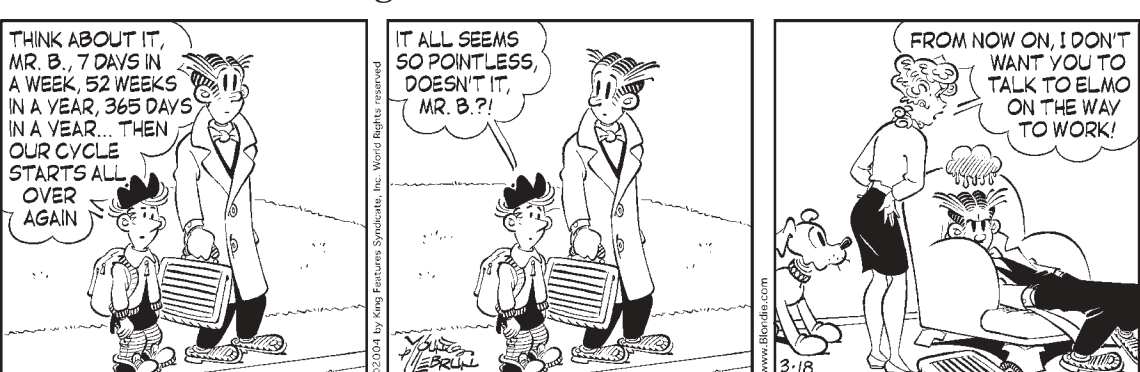
Garfield • Jim Davis



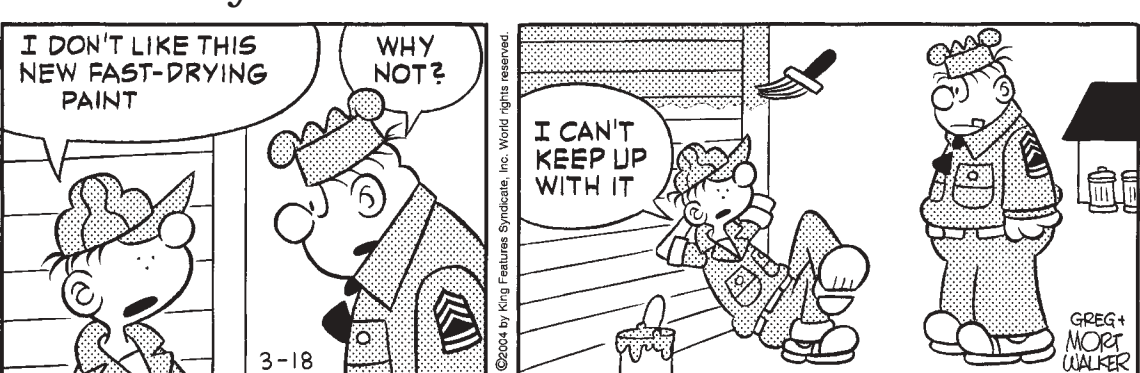
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Blondie • Chic Young



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Cryptoquip

3-18 CRYPTOQUIP

N Q E V B C L E P U T U B

T U E K U G N M N P C E Q K X T Y

P X L G N Q X , L B S G V Y X

U S K P B M X K E P X L G X E T Y ?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: BECAUSE I GAVE YOGI'S SHOW SUCH A VERY BAD REVIEW, I SUPPOSE I PANNED A BEAR.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: X equals E

Boyfriend sick of roller coaster ride

DEAR ABBY: I need help dealing with my ex-girlfriend, "Ashley."

We were together off and on for 2 1/2 years and lived together for a year. It was a new experience for both of us.



Abigail Van Buren

• Dear Abby

About a year into our relationship, Ashley decided she wasn't sure that what we had was what she wanted anymore.

I was OK with it. We split up for four or five months, and then we started talking and decided to try again.

About three months later, she did the same thing.

It has now been another three months, and supposedly she has a new boyfriend, but she's calling me.

I love her and would do anything for her, but I just don't know what to do anymore.

My romance with Ashley has caused a lot of arguments between me and my parents. Any advice would help.

— HURTING IN PASADENA

DEAR HURTING: Ashley appears to be too immature and indecisive for a serious commitment to anyone — her current boyfriend included. If it's love you're looking for, she isn't the girl who can provide it. The best advice I can offer is to admire her from a safe distance. She's a heartbreaker.

DEAR ABBY: I have been with my husband, "Ron," for 12 years. We have always gotten along well except for one thing.

He smokes pot — a lot of it. He says he will never stop. I am against pot smoking, but I've tol-

erated it for his sake.

My daughter, "Erica," just turned 15 and has become involved with a bad crowd. I recently found out she has been smoking pot with Ron. Ron says he'd rather Erica do it at home instead of on the streets.

Now, if Ron and I have even the smallest disagreement, Erica will automatically take his side. The two of them have their own bond and inside jokes; I feel like an outsider. I would take Erica and leave my husband, but I'm not financially able.

How can I make Ron realize it is unacceptable — that he should be a role model instead of a friend? I really feel like I am going crazy. Any ideas?

— UNCOOL MOM

DEAR UNCOOL MOM: Rather than behave like a responsible parent, your husband has become your daughter's enabler.

I urge you to draw the line. Tell him that you want the house to be "clean" by tomorrow. If it's not, let him know you'll be calling the police to report him for supplying drugs to a minor. Then do it.

Let him explain his off-the-wall philosophy to them. And for your daughter's sake, recognize that it's time you started job-hunting. You may need to support the two of you in the near future.

DEAR ABBY: I attended a wine tasting a few weeks ago where a guest accidentally broke a wine glass. The hostess didn't seem concerned that he might be injured, but she did get upset that the glass was broken.

Before he left, the guest offered to pay for the broken wine glass and the hostess accepted, saying that he owed her \$16.

He produced a \$20 bill, which she pocketed without offering change — and later bragged to me that she had made money on the deal. I thought her behavior was inappropriate.

She recently confided that she's going to buy a crate of 99-cent glasses and charge \$5 apiece if any of them are broken. What do you think of this?

— APPALLED

DEAR APPALLED: The hostess appears to be ethically challenged. If she'd cheat her guests on the wine glass, how can one be sure she's pouring the vintage she claims to be?

Frankly, I think she's popped her cork, and if I were you, I'd skip her soirees.

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.Dear-Abby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, Calif. 90069.

Bridge

East dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ A 4 2
♥ J 7 2
♦ 10 8 7 5 2
♣ 10 7

WEST

♠ 5 3
♥ K Q 10 6 3
♦ J 6
♣ K J 4 2

EAST

♠ K 9 8 6
♥ A 9 8 4
♦ 3
♣ 9 6 5 3

SOUTH

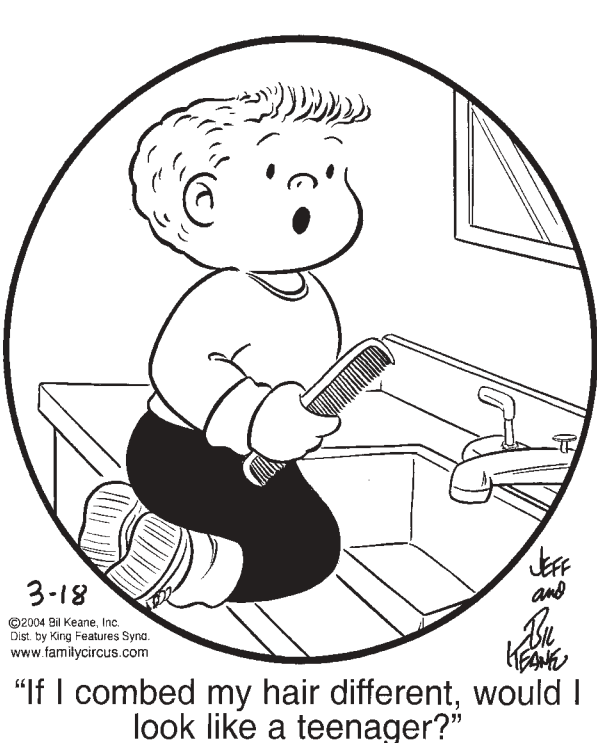
♠ Q J 10 7
♥ 5
♦ A K Q 9 4
♣ A Q 8

The bidding:

East	South	West	North
Pass	1 ♦	1 ♥	2 ♦
3 ♥	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♦
Pass	5 ♦		

Opening lead — king of hearts.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



A Case for the Defense

This deal occurred in a pair event. As happens so often, the results differed strikingly from table to table.

Games and partscores in spades and diamonds were attempted with varying success, but the play was most interesting at those tables where the contract was five diamonds.

There was nothing complicated about the play at most of these tables.

West led the king of hearts and continued the suit after East signaled with the eight or nine.

Declarer ruffed, cashed the A-K of trumps and finessed the queen of spades.

East took his king and returned a club, but South rejected the finesse, since he had a sure way to avoid a club loser by taking the ace and playing three rounds of spades, discarding a club from dummy. At these tables, declarer made five diamonds.

They would not have succeeded, however, had the defense been sharper. At trick one, East should have overtaken the king of hearts and returned a club.

Had he done that, South would have gone down one.

It is not an extraordinary feat for East to take the king of hearts with the ace in order to lead a club.

He should assume West's overcall was based on a five-card suit, which in turn means declarer has only one heart.

East should count on the ace of hearts and king of spades as two tricks for the defense and should conclude that his side's best chance for a third trick lies in clubs.

Once this conclusion is reached, it is clear that clubs should be attacked at trick two, and, obviously, it must be better for the club lead to come from East.

Crossword

ACROSS

1 Boot attachment
5 Conditions
8 Attention getter
12 Use a squeegee
13 Pair
14 Blue hue
15 In due time
16 Flightless bird
17 Senseless?
18 Biological categories
20 Greek cheese
22 Unlikely promgoer
26 Burdened
29 Sort
30 Crucial
31 Oklahoma city
32 Sugar (Suff.)
33 "American Gigolo" star
34 Literary collection
35 Wood-shaping tool
36 Accolades

DOWN

1 Booty
2 Air-freshener scent
3 Word often following "once"
4 Got more magazines
5 Paragon
6 Syllable from the Giant
7 Puffy dessert
8 British Yule show, for short
9 Com-plained
10 Bottom line
11 Bill
19 Skedad-dled
21 Wapiti

Solution time: 25 mins.

B	A	A	C	B	S
T	A	L	C	H	O
A	R	M	O	R	L
T	O	B	E	O	R
M	D	I	B	I	D
G	L	A	C	A	I
C	L	O	T	H	I
M	O	B	A	B	O
T	O	B	E	C	O
K	E	R	M	I	T
D	R	E	S	S	E
S	S	E	R	H	O

Yesterday's answer 3-18

THANK YOU FOR READING THE

COLBY FREE PRESS

YOUR LOCAL SOURCE FOR:
NEWS • WEATHER
SPORTS

155 W. 5th • 785-462-3963