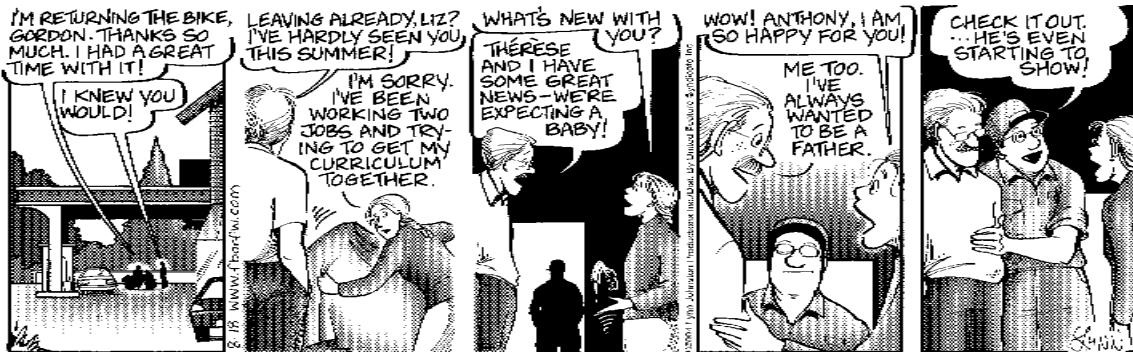
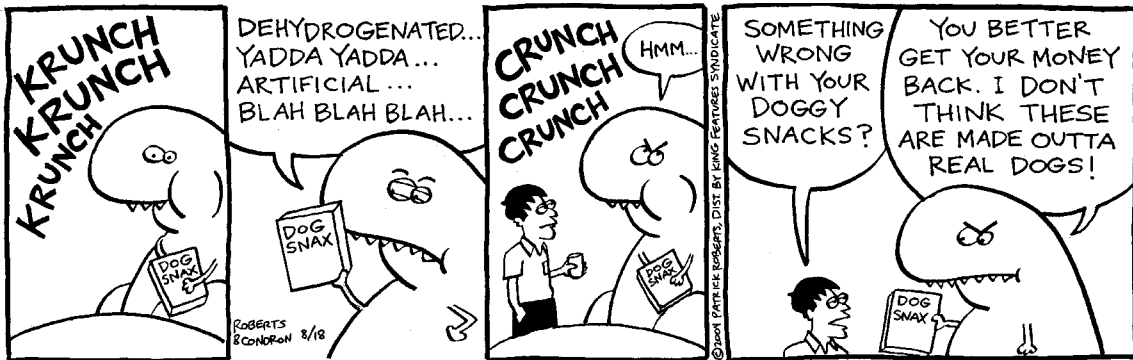


For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



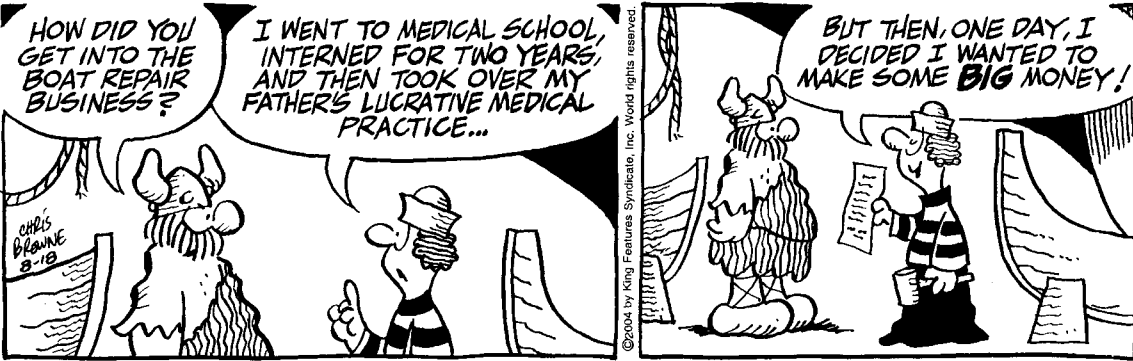
Tod The Dinosaur • PR Condon



Garfield • Jim Davis



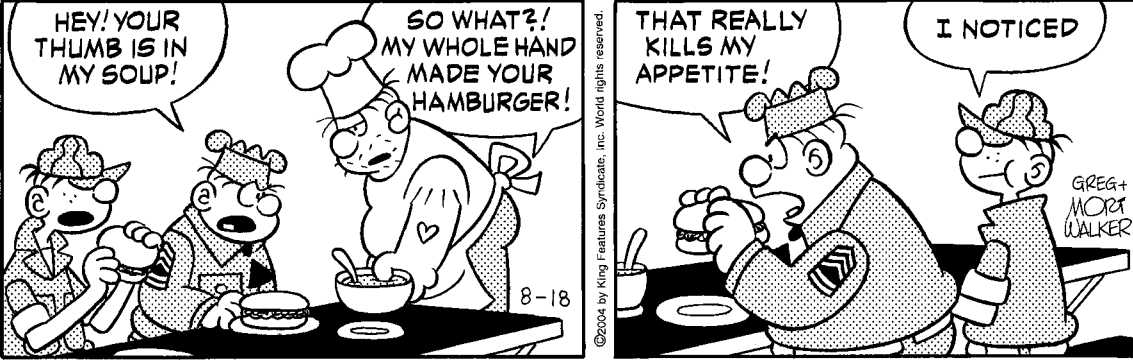
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Blondie • Chic Young



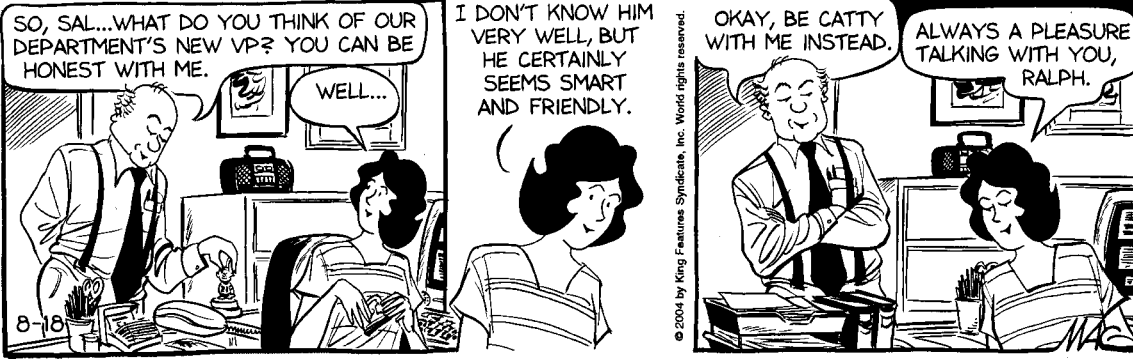
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Cryptoquip

JDRW-JDGL GERBLZB GDRW LJ N YNLTIH HUKNTLNKUY
MDRMUZRRERW LNU TBS NRNLQYK YIAUIQU, L
NU ABKU UBGLUZ UWWG: RDUIY VID ALRFK YNV

"E KSUK EL AS TBS."
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF SMALL PURPLE FRUIT MAKES YOU BECOME ZANY, I RECKON YOU MUST BE PLUM CRAZY!

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: G equals S

KFNK'Y NQ NVU JIH NQ NVU.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: LONG-LOST SINATRA SONG CONCERNING THE WAY HE MADE EASTER EGGS: "I DYED IT MY WAY."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: N equals A

Crossword

- ACROSS**
- Hearty drink
 - Six-pack muscles
 - Hal-loween purchase
 - TV oldie, "— and Allie"
 - "Go, team!"
 - PC symbol
 - Burr role
 - Big rig
 - Historic period
 - Kind of apple or potato
 - Native New Zealander
 - Galileo's birthplace
 - mater
 - Obliquely
 - All-purpose truck
 - Drag through the mud
 - Golf stat
 - U. of Texas athlete
 - Cartoon skunk
- DOWN**
- Writer Anita
 - Get more magazines
 - Graceful dancer
 - Holster
 - Help a hood
 - British folk dance
 - Unembellished
 - George's brother
 - Four roods
 - Nerve cell process
 - "Chicago" lyricist
 - Lecherous look
 - 36 Writer Anita
 - 21 Handle roughly
 - 22 Choir member
 - 23 Augury
 - 24 Harbor structures
 - 26 Creamy fruit drink
 - 27 Tournament format
 - 28 Scruff
 - 29 Waxed
 - 31 Old woman's home?
 - 34 It makes dough sticky
 - 35 Correspondent
 - 37 Scoot
 - 38 Vicki Lawrence role
 - 39 Wild mountain goat
 - 40 Pianist Peter
 - 41 Snatch
 - 44 Sphere
 - 45 Gretzky's milieu
 - 46 Opposite of "post-"
 - 47 Always, in verse

Solution time: 21 mins.

ACROSS	DOWN
1 HEARTY	1 GO
2 SIX-PACK	2 KIDS' CARD
3 HALLOWEEN	3 JURIST
4 TV OLDIE	4 LANCE
5 "GO, TEAM!"	5 FAMILY SUBDIVISIONS
6 PC SYMBOL	6 MET
7 BURR	7 MELODY
8 BIG RIG	8 DISGRACEFUL
9 HISTORIC	9 GENERAL
10 KIND OF	10 APPOMATTOX
11 NATIVE	11 CHURCH
12 NEW ZEALAND	12 SONGBOOK
13 GALILEO	13 "DEAD MAN'S HAND"
14 MATER	14 PAIR
15 OBLIQUELY	15 LYRICIST
16 ALL-PURPOSE	16 MAKE A SWEATER
17 TRUCK	17 LANKA
18 DRAG	
19 GOLF	
20 U. OF TEXAS	
21 ATHLETE	
22 CARTOON	
23 SKUNK	
24 LEPEW	

Yesterday's answer 8-17

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			

- ACROSS**
- Hearts, e.g.
 - Kitten's comment
 - Scorch
 - Lead-in to bird or plane
 - "— Little Teapot"
 - Grownup nits
 - Jim Bouton book
 - Shrek is one
 - Military hat
 - Pulverized
 - Footnote abbr.
 - Ump
 - Chip in a chip
 - Expression
 - Irritate
 - Dove's comment
 - Secure (a rope)
 - Complete
 - Kreskin's claim
 - Author Kingsley
 - Menial worker
 - Adipose tissue
- DOWN**
- Parent sharers
 - BYU location
 - Mets' home
 - AI and unau
 - Somber
 - Sound of contentment
 - Shows off on the surfboard
 - Con
 - Time of your life
 - Oklahoma city
 - Writer Angelou
 - Tend the lawn
 - Dresses in
 - Madonna's "La — Bonita"
 - "The Jazz Singer," notably
 - "O Sole —"
 - Ostrich's kin
 - Near the treasure
 - "101 Dalmatians" actress
 - Congratulatory gesture
 - Farm fraction
 - Saxophonist's sliver
 - Watch chain
 - Host

Solution time: 21 mins.

ACROSS	DOWN
1 HEARTS	1 PARENT
2 KITTEN'S	2 BYU
3 SCORCH	3 METS'
4 LEAD-IN	4 AI AND
5 "LITTLE TEAPOT"	5 SOMBER
6 GROWNUP	6 SOUND
7 JIM BOUTON	7 SHOWS
8 SHREK	8 CON
9 MILITARY	9 TIME
10 PULVERIZED	10 OKLAHOMA
11 FOOTNOTE	11 CITY
12 UMP	12 WRITER
13 CHIP	13 ANGELOU
14 EXPRESSION	14 TEND
15 IRRITATE	15 LAWN
16 DOVE'S	16 DRESSES
17 SECURE	17 IN
18 COMPLETE	18 MADONNA'S
19 KRESKIN'S	19 "LA —
20 AUTHOR	20 BONITA"
21 MENIAL	21 "THE
22 ADIPOSE	22 JAZZ
	23 SINGER,"
	24 NOTABLY
	25 "O SOLE
	26 —"
	27 OSTRICH'S
	28 KIN
	29 NEAR
	30 THE
	31 TREASURE
	32 "101
	33 DALMATIANS"
	34 ACTRESS
	35 CONGRATULATORY
	36 GESTURE
	37 FARM
	38 FRACTION
	39 SAXOPHONIST'S
	40 SLIVER
	41 WATCH
	42 CHAIN
	43 HOST

Yesterday's answer 8-18

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			
57				58			59			

Family Circus • Bill Keane



Bridge

West dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ A 6
♥ A Q 4
♦ A 7 6 2
♣ Q 8 5 3

WEST

♠ K 10 4
♥ 10 8 7 6 5 2
♦ Q 3
♣ 10 2

EAST

♠ J 3
♥ 9
♦ 10 9 8 4
♣ A K J 9 7 6

SOUTH

♠ Q 9 8 7 5 2
♥ K J 3
♦ K J 5
♣ 4

The bidding:
West Pass North 1 NT East 2 ♣ South 4 ♠
Opening lead — ten of clubs.

A Quest for Information

There are many ways a skilled declarer can inprove his chances. One of the most reliable is to count the opponents' distribution as the play progresses.

Consider this deal where South reaches four spades as shown. As the cards lie, declarer starts with two certain trump losers and a club loser, and it appears that at some point he is likely to attempt a diamond finesse and lose to West's queen for down one. If South tends to his knitting, however, the diamond loser can be averted.

Declarer plays low from dummy on West's ten of clubs, and East overtakes the ten with the jack and continues with the king, ruffed by South with the seven. A spade is led to the ace and a spade returned, covered by the jack, queen and king. West exits with a heart to the jack, and declarer cashes the K-A of hearts, on which East discards two clubs. South then ruffs a club in his hand.

West tries to conceal his possession of the spade ten by refusing to overruff, but declarer continues his quest for information by leading the eight of spades. West wins as East discards a diamond, producing this position with West on lead:

North D A 7 6; C Q
West H 10 8; D Q 3
East D 10 9 8; C A
South S 9; D K J 5

West can do no better than to return a heart, on which dummy and East discard diamonds as declarer ruffs. At this point, South has a sure thing.

East, who has shown up with six clubs, two spades and a heart — and therefore four diamonds — has only three cards left, one of which is known to be the club ace. The A-K of diamonds are thus certain to fell all the remaining diamonds, establishing the jack as the game-going trick with no need to risk a finesse.

Tomorrow: Try and make it.

East dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ 8 7 5
♥ K Q 6 3
♦ A Q 10
♣ 10 7 4

WEST

♠ 4 3
♥ 9 8 5 4 2
♦ 9 6
♣ Q J 8 3

EAST

♠ A Q J 10 2
♥ A J 10
♦ 3
♣ 9 6 5 2

SOUTH

♠ K 9 6
♥ 7
♦ K J 8 7 5 4 2
♣ A K

The bidding:
East 1 ♠ South 2 ♦ West 3 ♦ North 3 ♦
Pass 5 ♦ Pass
Opening lead — four of spades.

Try and Make It

It is not easy to make five diamonds on this deal. But the fact is that South made it and, moreover, accomplished the feat in a relatively simple manner.

East won the spade lead with the ace and returned the queen, taken by declarer with the king. South realized that if he drew trumps and led a heart to the queen, East would win with the ace and cash the jack of spades to put the contract down one.

Faced with this unacceptable prospect, South chose a different line of play that offered an unlikely but legitimate chance for the contract.

He began by cashing the A-K of clubs, then crossed to the ace of trumps, led the ten of clubs and, after East followed low, discarded his singleton heart on it!

As a result, South now had the contract in tow. West was on lead and helpless. A club continuation would yield a ruff-and-discard, while a heart return through the K-Q would trap East's ace and provide a parking place for South's spade loser.

West did as well as he could when he returned the nine of trumps. Declarer won with dummy's ten, led the king of hearts through East's ace and in that way made the contract.

It is true that South was very lucky to find West with the Q-J of clubs, which allowed the contract to be made. It is also true that West could have beaten the contract by playing the ten of spades at trick one instead of the ace, but this play is much easier to make with all four hands exposed.

Tomorrow: Once, maybe — twice, never.

