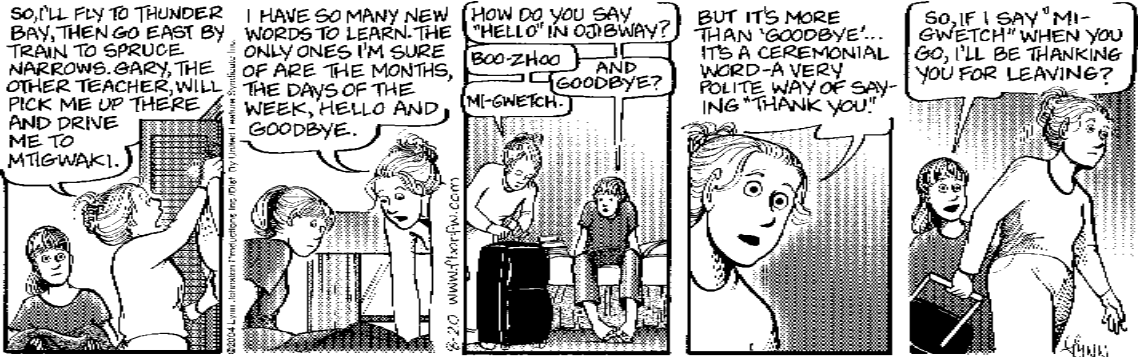


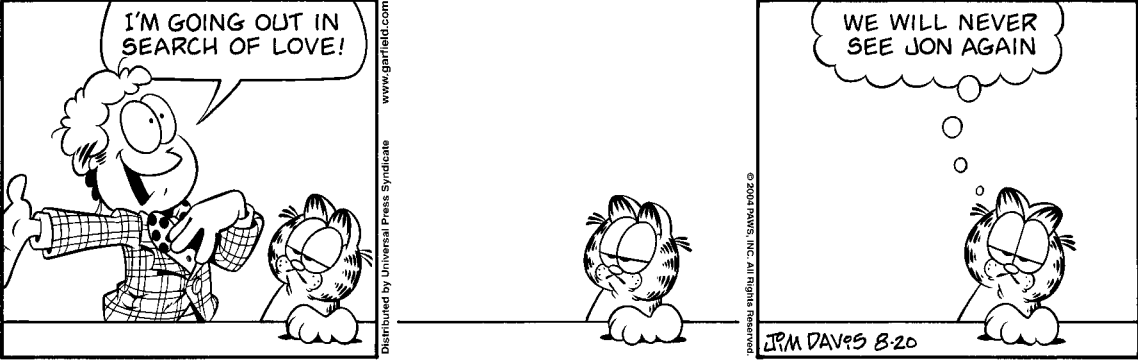
For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



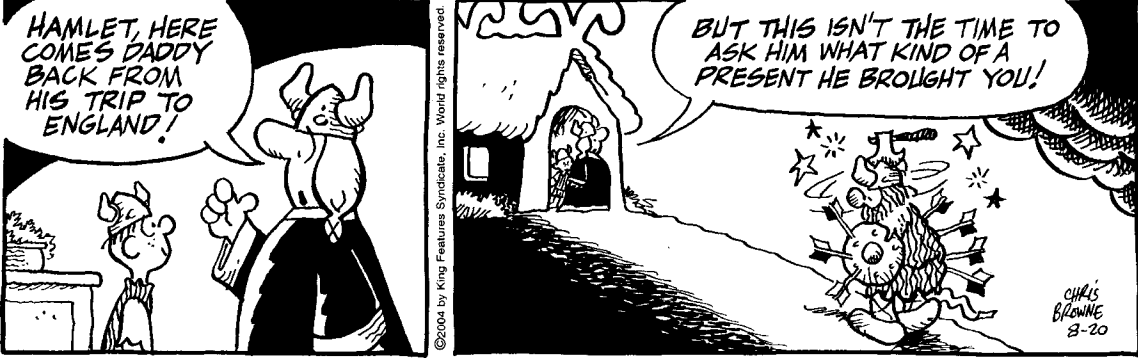
Geech • Jerry Bittle



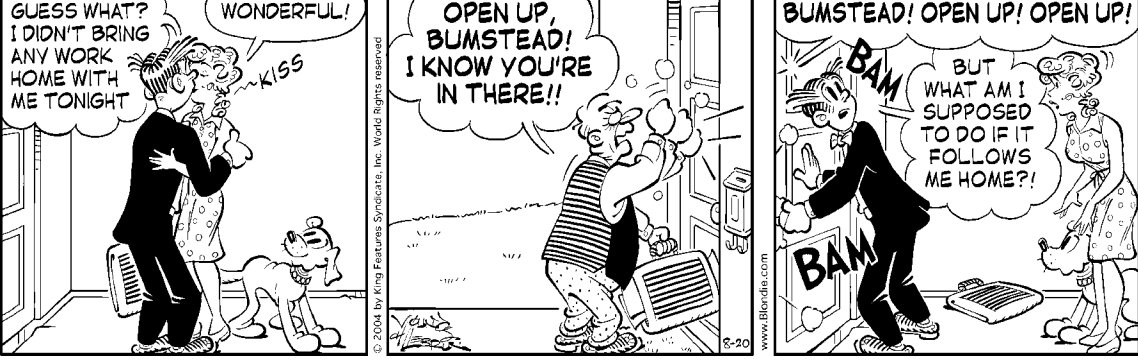
Garfield • Jim Davis



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



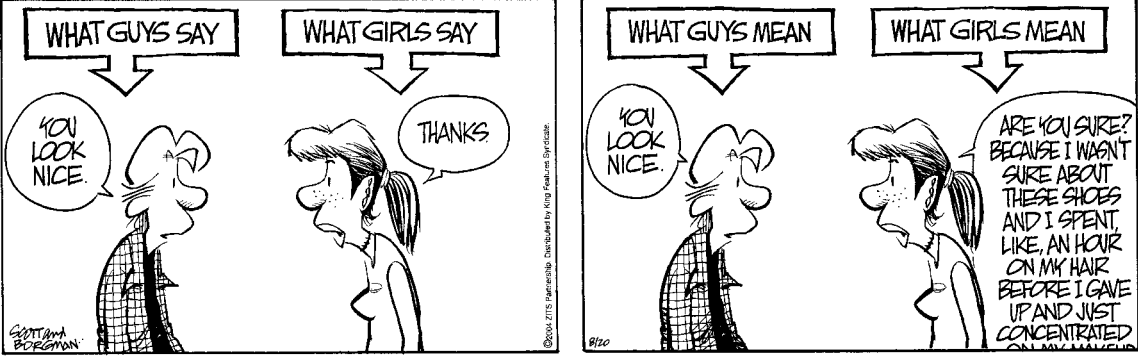
Blondie • Chic Young



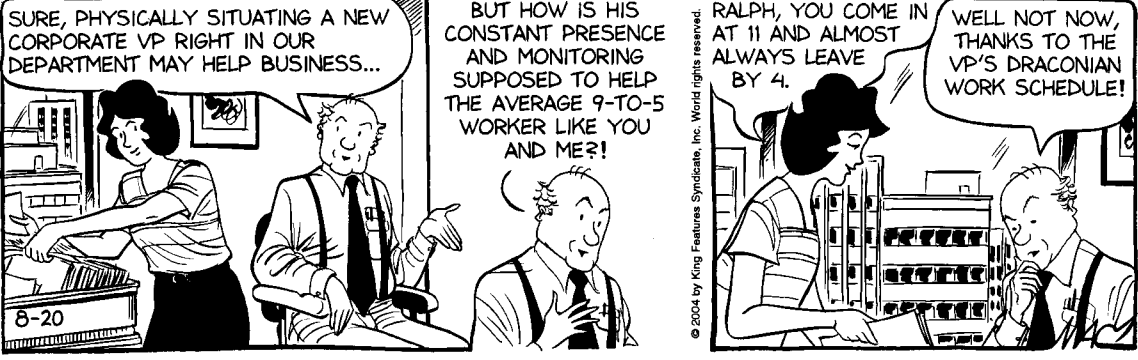
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Cryptoquip

L LEXHLUV X OKQKG	T IOQQHIJ E YEU'I
OKKGPLUXJKG'F EKJJK	SJGTMUTHTM HG "OUHQTE"
ELHWJ AV "XQQ'F ZVQQ	VHOKS QXHRERKB RJ "E
JWXJ AQVUMF ZVQQ!"	QOXXGJYU VHXS."

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: DO YOU THINK THAT A MONASTERY'S LEADING MONK COULD BE CALLED THE BIG BROTHER?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals O

YESTERDAY'S CRYPTOQUIP: DO YOU THINK THAT A MONASTERY'S LEADING MONK COULD BE CALLED THE BIG BROTHER?	YESTERDAY'S CRYPTOQUIP: I IMAGINE A COLOR COORDINATOR'S MOTTO MIGHT BE "ALL'S WELL THAT BLENDS WELL."
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals O	Today's Cryptoquip Clue: X equals R

Crossword

ACROSS

1 Guitar-neck features
6 Make a decision
9 Rather's network
12 Station
13 By means of
14 Appomat-tox VIP
15 Acid type
16 Gourmand
18 Sound quality
20 Pay attention
21 Cattle call
23 Crony
24 Shoppers' aids
25 Cavort
27 1976
29 "— not to reason why, ..."
31 Give in
35 Big production number?
37 Jet forth
38 Teapot feature

DOWN

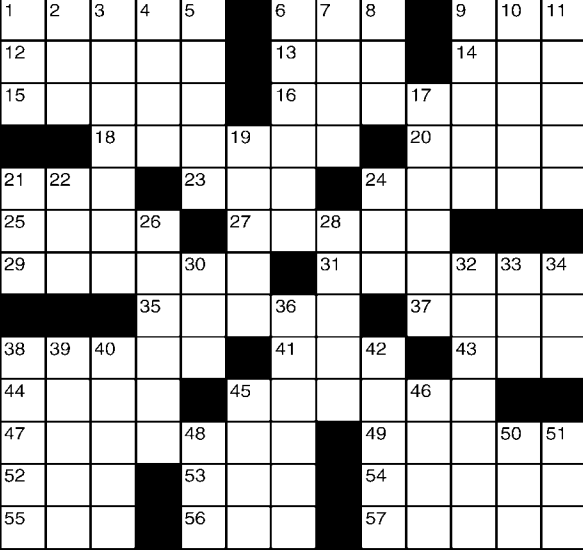
1 Food safety org.
2 Sleep phenom
3 Embodiment
4 Writer Morrison
5 Unorthodox percussion troupe
6 Too
7 Prop for Sherlock
8 Mai —
9 This list
10 Guardian Angel's chapeau
11 Burpee wares
17 Agree factor
19 Deep voice

21 "A-Team" actor
22 La-la lead-in
24 Tell tales
26 Irritates
28 Muscle power
30 Same old same-old
32 Terse witticism
33 Actor Beatty
34 See 48-Down
36 Ersatz beach blankets
38 Coasters
39 Former larvae
40 Water, for instance
42 Elevators
45 Thor's father
46 Asta's mistress
48 With 34-Down, kayo combination
50 Com-motion
51 Verily

Solution time: 25 mins.

A	L	S	O		W	O	K		A	F	A	R
D	A	H	L		I	R	E		E	R	I	E
A	V	I	D		L	E	E		R	E	D	S
M	A	M	M	A	L		P	R	I	E	S	T
		A	M	I			Y	A	W			
P	A	W	N		A	N	G	E	L	I	C	A
A	N	I		M	O	O		L	O	P		
C	A	L	L	I	S	T	O		B	L	O	T
		L	A	C			D	O	E			
W	R	I	T	E	R		W	H	E	E	Z	E
H	O	W	E		A	L	I		T	R	E	Y
E	L	A	N		G	I	L		L	I	R	E
N	E	W	T		E	E	L		E	N	O	S

Yesterday's answer 8-20



ACROSS

1 Pure happiness
6 Considerable
11 Jacques of hockey fame
12 Measured two-dimensionally
14 Hope/Crosby co-star
15 Lord Wimsey's creator
16 Spoon-bender Geller
17 Pop
19 Hydrogen, e.g.
20 "— sana in ..."
22 Miss Piggy's pronoun
23 Speck
24 Song of praise
26 Tiara, perhaps
28 Scull need
30 Artesian appellation
31 Fled

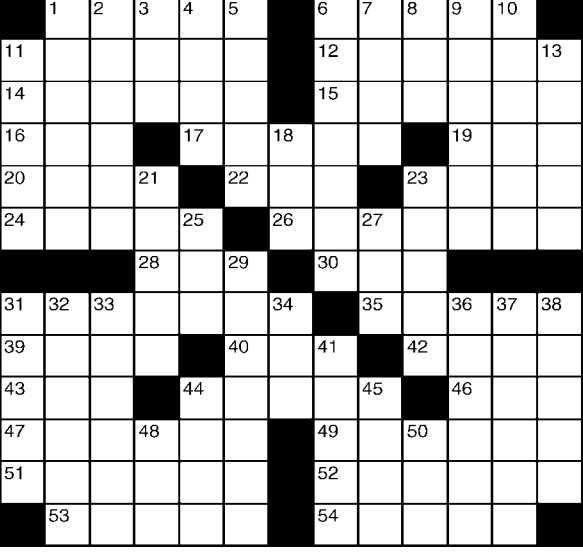
DOWN

35 Glowing ash
39 Springsteen's "— Fire"
40 Romaine
42 Days gone by
43 Prized possession
44 Con-fronted
46 Modern-day evidence
47 Onetime owner of the Ice Capades
49 "Constant Reader" writer
51 Brick-layer's tool

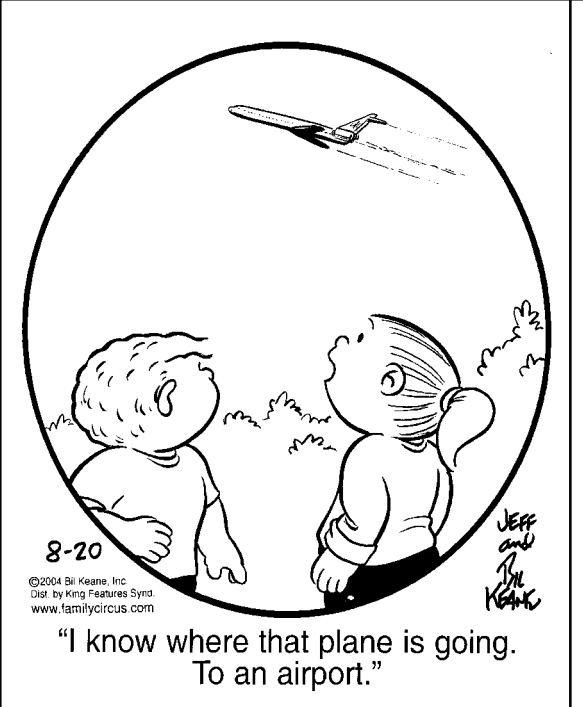
Solution time: 27 mins.

F	R	E	T	S		O	P	T		C	B	S
D	E	P	O	T		V	I	A		L	E	E
A	M	I	N	O		E	P	I	C	U	R	E
		T	I	M	B	R	E		H	E	E	D
M	O	O		P	A	L		L	I	S	T	S
R	O	M	P		S	Y	B	I	L			
T	H	E	I	R	S		R	E	L	E	N	T
		Q	U	O	T	A		S	P	E	W	
S	P	O	U	T		O	W	L		T	O	
L	U	X	E		O	W	N	I	N	G		
E	P	I	S	O	D	E		F	O	R	A	Y
D	A	D		N	I	L		T	R	A	D	E
S	E	E		E	N	S		T	A	M	O	A

Yesterday's answer 8-21



Family Circus • Bill Keane



Bridge

You are South, neither side vulnerable. The bidding has been:

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	2 ♦	Dble *	Pass
?			

* penalty double

What would you bid now with each of the following four hands?

- ♠ AQ863 ♥ Q93 ♦ K5 ♣ A82
- ♠ KQJ985 ♥ KQ6 ♦ 7 ♣ J93
- ♠ AQJ72 ♥ AKJ4 ♦ — ♣ KJ85
- ♠ AKJ10532 ♥ KQ4 ♦ 2 ♣ KQ

* * *

Bidding Quiz

1. Pass. There is absolutely no reason to override partner's penalty double, and you should pass expecting anywhere from a two- to four-trick defeat. The K-x of trumps should prove especially valuable on defense.

2. Two spades. There is quite a difference between this hand, which is relatively weak on defense, and the preceding hand, which can be expected to produce at least three defensive tricks.

In the present case, you probably won't win more than a trick or two with diamonds as trumps. You therefore have an obligation to protect partner, who would normally expect you to contribute three defensive tricks. You have a right to expect to take six tricks if spades are trumps, but, viewed defensively, your hand is way below par. The best way of indicating that your opening bid was based primarily on offensive values lies in bidding two spades.

3. Three diamonds. Here you're entitled to think that two diamonds can be defeated, but even so, it is probably wrong to pass. North has no idea you have such a powerful three-suiter, and the best way to tell him about it is by cuebidding diamonds.

This picture bid should assist partner greatly in finding the best game or slam contract. The cuebid guarantees no diamonds and a huge hand, one that is likely to produce a bigger plus on offense than on defense.

4. Four spades. You can expect to defeat two diamonds here also, but again it is better to override partner's double because of the extraordinary nature of your hand. You should assume that four spades can be made (with 100 honors), and that two diamonds doubled will not produce a big-enough penalty to offset this. Furthermore, if partner has two aces, there is a good chance for a slam, and this possibility cannot be ignored. It should be borne in mind that partner's double of two diamonds is a suggestion, not an absolute command.

South dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH	EAST
♠ A K 8 7 2	♠ Q J 3
♥ Q 6	♥ A 10 5
♦ 9 4	♦ 10 8 7 6
♣ A Q 6 3	♣ 9 8 4

WEST	SOUTH
♠ 10 6	♠ 9 5 4
♥ 9 8 7 4 2	♥ K J 3
♦ J 5 3	♦ A K Q 2
♣ 10 5 2	♣ K J 7

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 NT	Pass	3 ♣	Pass
3 NT	Pass	4 ♣	Pass
4 ♣	Pass	6 NT	Pass

Opening lead — nine of hearts.

Three vital elements

A squeeze is not really as mysterious as some players believe. Usually, what happens is that declarer cashes his tricks and a defender finds he cannot discard without costing his side a trick.

One of the primary characteristics of a successful squeeze is that declarer finds himself in a position to win all the remaining tricks but one. Let's see how this condition applies here.

Before play starts, South has only nine ready-made winners, but after West leads a heart and East takes the ace, South has 11 of the remaining 12 tricks. In other words, he has all the tricks but one, which alerts him to the possibility of a squeeze.

A second characteristic of a squeeze is that one opponent has the burden of guarding two suits. Thus, in this hand, East has to protect both spades and diamonds. West, his partner, cannot help him in this respect, and might just as well be somewhere else.

A third characteristic is that when declarer leads the squeeze card, there must be an entry to the hand opposite. This requirement is called communication, and without it the squeeze cannot work. Declarer has all three elements working for him in the present deal.

Let's say East returns a heart at trick two. South cashes two hearts and four clubs, and East is helpless when the last club is played. He must part with a spade or a diamond, and whichever one he discards, South acquires his 12th trick.

Observe that from the moment East takes the ace of hearts at trick one, there is nothing he can do to avoid this fate. All declarer has to do is to cash his heart and club winners and keep his entries to both hands intact, and poor East is a goner.

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