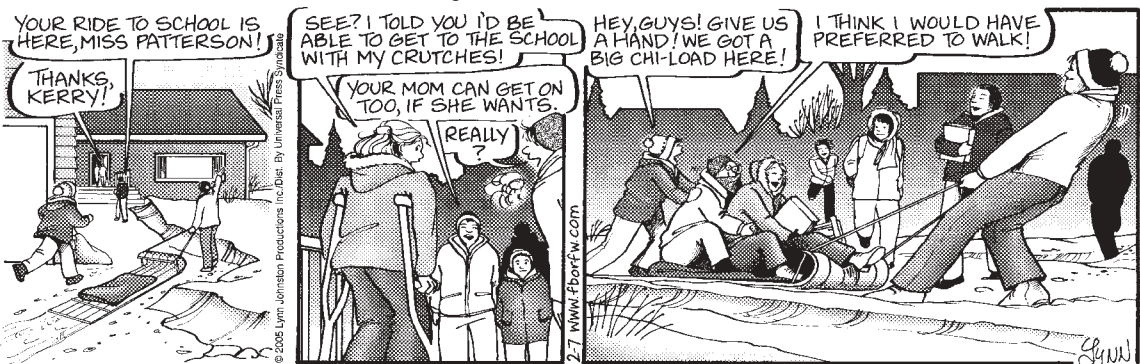
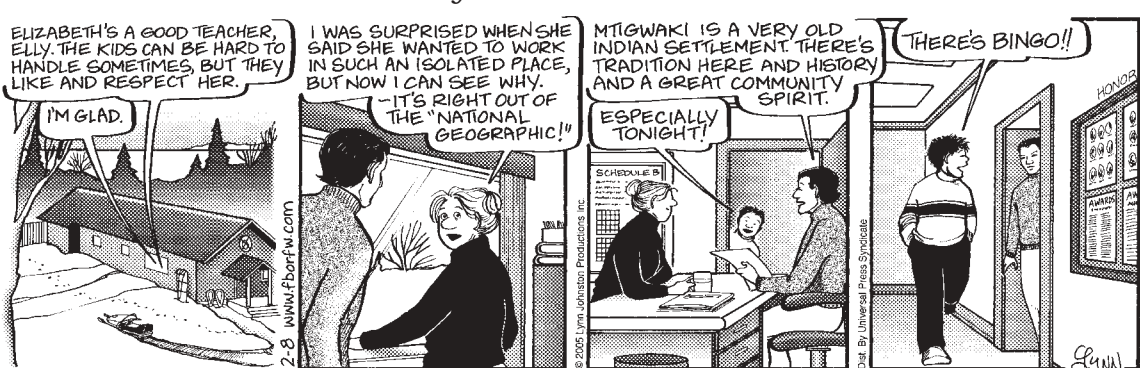


For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



Garfield • Jim Davis



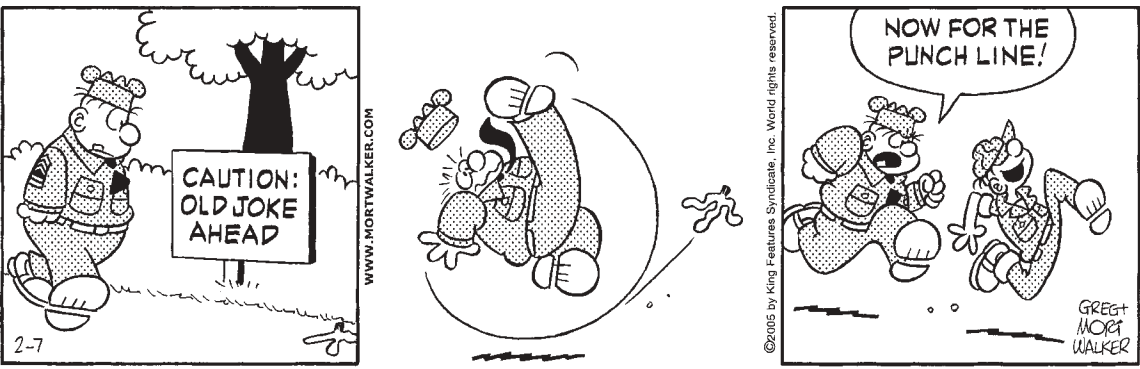
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Blondie • Chic Young



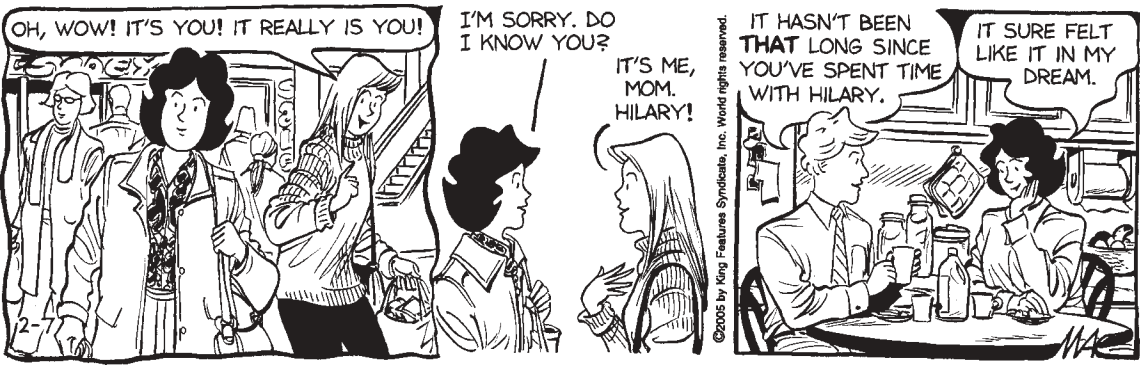
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Evidence points to cousin stealing

DEARABBY: Heartsick is the only way I can describe how I feel right now. Something very precious to me, an antique doll, has disappeared from its storage place in my bedroom and has been replaced by a similar doll that I have never seen before. The only person besides my husband who knew of its existence was my cousin "Lana."

Lana and her husband have been weekend houseguests in our home for several years. A few weeks ago, we let them use our bedroom and we took the guest room.

The other day I went to the chest where I kept the doll, intending to have it appraised, and found something else in its place. I have no solid proof that Lana took it, but the circumstances and family history all point in that direction.

You see, the doll was a family heirloom given to me by my aunt 15 years ago.

As far as I'm concerned, the relationship between my cousin and me has been seriously affected. What should be my next step?

— HEARTSICK IN N.C.

DEAR HEARTSICK: Call Cousin Lana and tell her what you have told me. Perhaps she was upset that the heirloom doll was not given to her, or assumed that you wouldn't know the difference if another doll was substituted. Ask her to please return the original.

If she is unwilling to cooperate, you could report the theft to the police and fill out a stolen property report. However,



Abigail Van Buren

• Dear Abby

you should be aware that, unless the doll is valuable, petty thefts are not a high priority for police departments.

DEAR ABBY: How do you get someone's name off junk mail lists when that person has died? My sister passed away last May.

I had all of her mail forwarded to my house. I specifically contacted all the bill collectors and her friends and gave them my address, but her junk mail has found its way to me. Many of the catalogs and charities used the address correction service, thinking my sister had moved to my address, and now they send their stuff to me. The rest of the mail comes forwarded by the post office.

How can I make it stop? I don't want this stuff. The Direct Mail Marketing organization says that this request cannot be made by a second party.

— HAD ENOUGH IN CITRUS HEIGHTS

DEAR HAD ENOUGH: With a black marking pen, cross out the bar code on the envelopes and write "Deceased; Return to Sender." Then put the items back in your mailbox. Eventually the senders will get the message and the unwanted mail will stop. Also, if you call the 800

numbers for the catalogs and explain the situation, most will cooperate and remove your sister's name and your address from their lists.

DEAR ABBY: What's the proper etiquette when escorting a woman through a revolving door? I never know whether to send her in first, or if I should enter first and do the initial pushing.

Revolving doors can be heavy, and I can only imagine that it's difficult for a petite woman — or one wearing high heels — to maneuver.

But I don't want to be rude and charge through a door in front of my date. Have you any advice?

— GOING IN CIRCLES IN HOUSTON

DEAR GOING IN CIRCLES: Your rationale for going first through a revolving door makes sense to me. However, when in doubt a gentleman should ask, "Would you like me to go first?" In other words, take your cue from the lady.

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.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, Calif. 90069.

Bridge

West dealer.			
North-South vulnerable.			
NORTH			
♠	8 7		
♥	A 10 8 3		
♦	A Q J 9 3		
♣	A 7		
WEST			
♠	K J 10 9 5 4		
♥	6		
♦	10 7 6 5 4		
♣	6		
EAST			
♠	Q		
♥	K Q J 9 4		
♦	K 8		
♣	Q 10 8 5 4		
SOUTH			
♠	A 6 3 2		
♥	7 5 2		
♦	2		
♣	K J 9 3 2		

The bidding:
West 3 ♠ North Dble East Pass South 3 NT
Opening lead — five of diamonds.

The hero of today's deal is Zia Mahmood, who in the past 25 years has firmly established himself as one of the world's all-time great players. The charismatic Pakistani, who now resides in London and the United States, is noted most for his daring and imagination at the table, and his wit and charm away from it.

Today's deal, from the 1993 Vanderbilt Teams, is vintage Zia. After West's offbeat three-spade pre-empt and North's double, Zia, South, took a stab at three notrump on his eight high-card points.

West led a diamond, and where most mortals would have played dummy's jack or queen, Zia inserted the nine! This brought immediate results when the nine forced East's king, but the contract was still a long way from home.

East shifted to the spade queen, taken by the ace, and a heart was ducked to East's nine. When East returned the heart king, Zia ducked again, then won the queen continuation with the ace. The A-Q-J of diamonds were then cashed, East showing out on the second round.

At this point, with five cards remaining to be played, the opposing hands were virtually an open book.

West was known to have started with six spades, five diamonds and one heart, so he had at most one club. East, forced to discard a heart in order to guard clubs, was known to be holding four clubs and the heart jack.

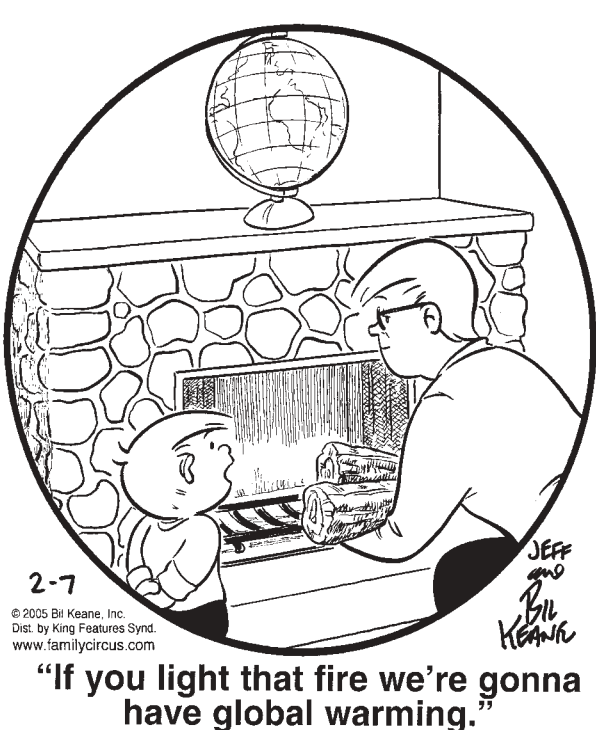
To make the contract, Zia needed four club tricks, which might seem impossible given East's holding and dummy's doubleton ace. But such things are child's play for the Pakistani.

He simply led a low club from dummy and finessed the nine(!), returned to dummy with the club ace and played the heart ten. East was forced to win and lead a club from the Q-10 to South's K-J to give Zia his ninth trick.

In the post-mortem, the self-effacing Zia pointed out that he had in fact erred by ducking the second heart, which eventually forced him to risk losing a trick to the singleton ten of clubs in the West hand. Had Zia taken the second heart, he could later have played the ace and another club to the nine before exiting with his remaining heart to force East to make the same losing return in clubs.

Tomorrow: The art of circumvention.
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Family Circus • Bil Keane



Crossword

ACROSS									
1	Beast of burden	39	Cereal container?	DOWN	1	Actress Jessica	21	Mex. neighbor	
4	Gelid	41	Bungles (up)	2	Devil's purchase	23	Branch		
7	Took off	43	Eggs	3	Agra attire	25	Wonderful Life"		
11	Engage in idling	44	Autocrat	4	Annoy	26	Opposite of "always"		
13	Wish undone	46	Upper regions of space	5	Poolroom needs	27	Swayze's "Dirty Dancing"		
14	Leo's comment	50	Fill to the max	6	Busy-body	28	Ointment		
15	"Ironside" star	53	Prune	7	"Chair-man of the Board"	29	Curved molding		
16	"Jeopardy!" juggernaut	55	Characterization	8	De-pressed	30	Convent group		
17	Horribly wrong	57	Gorilla	9	Listening device	31	React to gravity		
18	Jennifer Garner series	58	Chester — Arthur	10	Parched	35	Expert		
20	Knock for a loop	59	Fe	12	Karloff portayal	38	"Indubitably"		
22	Actress Peebles	60	Morning moisture	19	"Sprechen Deutsch?"	40	Rd.		
24	Making inquiries	61	Conclusion			42	Dieter's lunch		
28	Nutty					45	Double Dutch prop		
32	Michael-mas daisy					47	Pit		
33	Malaria symptom					48	Verve		
34	Chart					49	Tear		
36	"Got it"					50	Tackle moguls		
37	Dustin Hoffman biopic					51	Melody		
						52	Only even prime		
						54	Church seat		

THANK YOU FOR READING THE

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Cryptoquip

V Q V T N E L W K J R R N K M V W E

T P N L M X - Q P N A X N W N P

U P L D D N P A, V ' G U L W M M X N O

V W O V W M K J W G V M V J W.

Saturday's Cryptoquip: WHEN A BASEBALL RELIEVER HAS FLU SYMPTOMS, ONE COULD SAY HE THROWS AT A FEVER PITCH.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals C