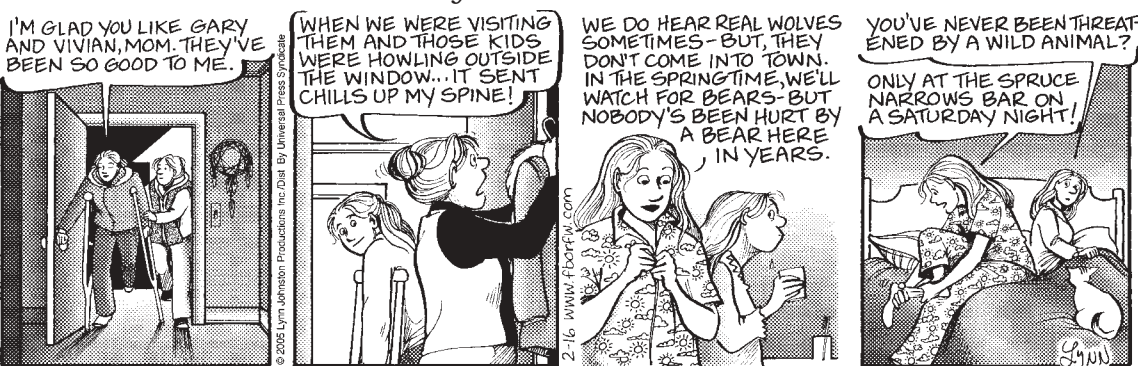


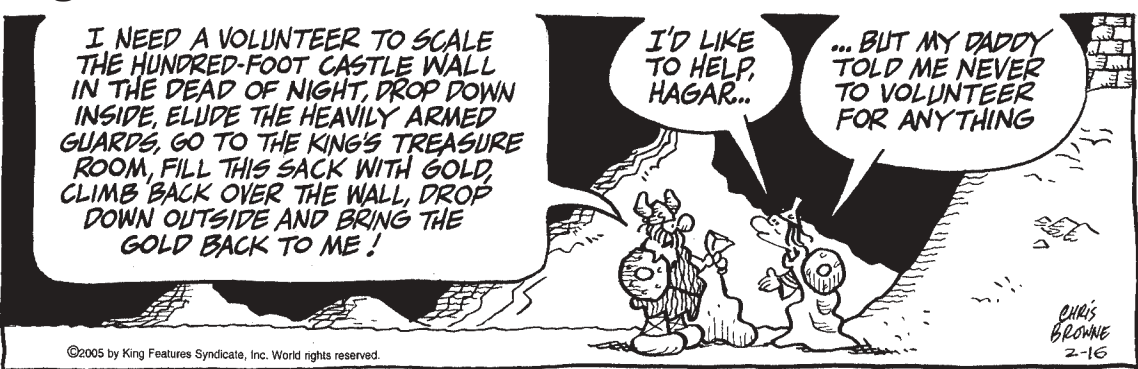
For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



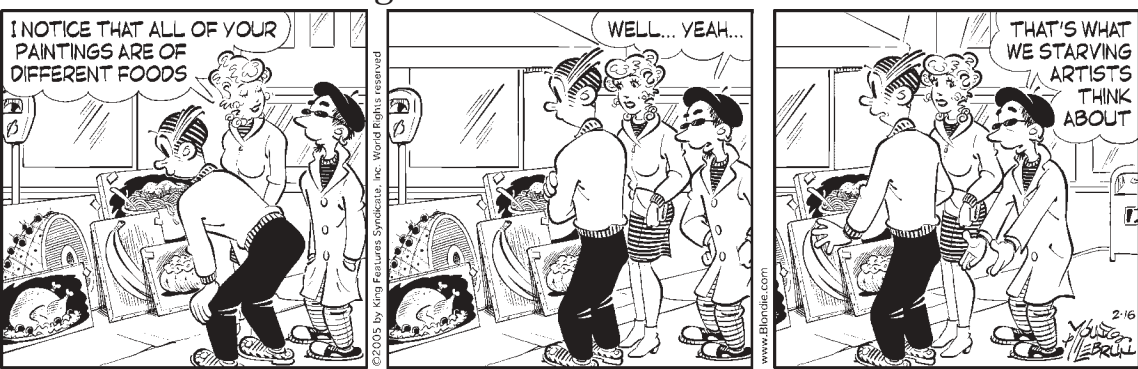
Garfield • Jim Davis



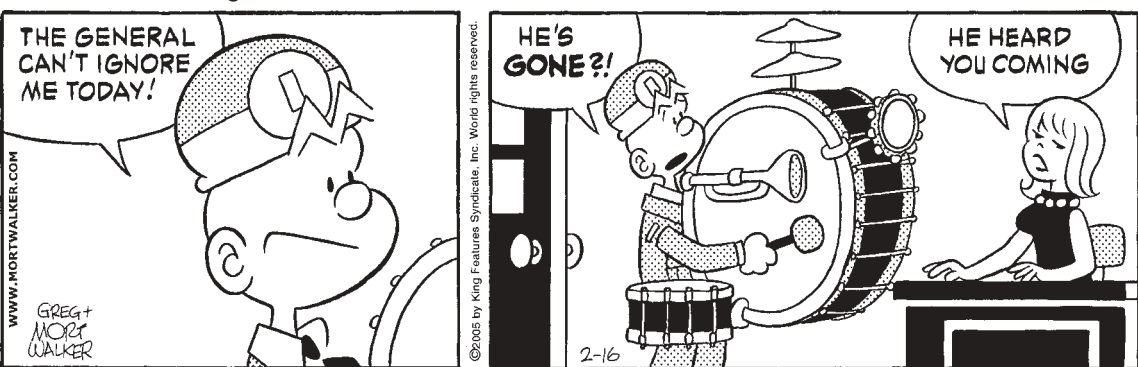
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



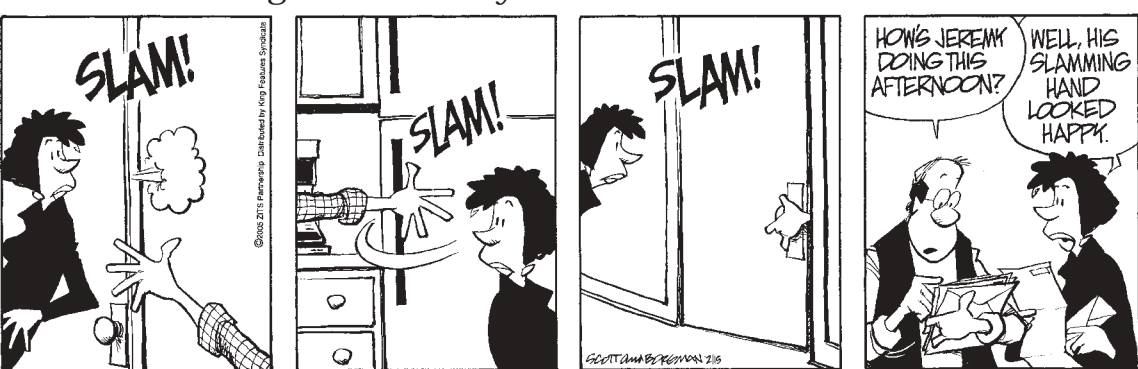
Blondie • Chic Young



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



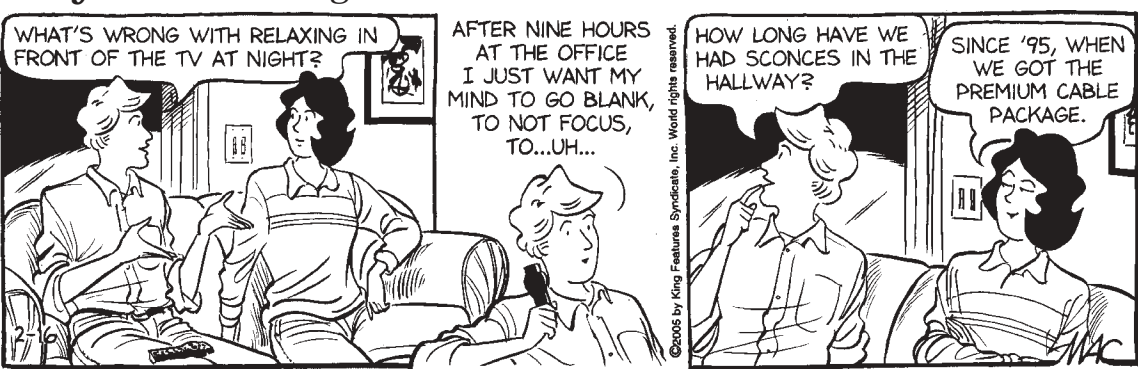
Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Cryptoquip

ECW UNLJ RPMXPExB Y QT MDLIQYOVZ IBD TFNI
VDBRW JRHNZEDPXWNJZL. IQOODJ RDLNFO BDLD
R UNXJJ EYXL CXVX WP EYX IFJQZ. QVV FIBDLN RQVD
JDHX CDMXZXPUEY.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A DOCTOR WAS A GENIUS AT BANDAGING, HE COULD BE CALLED "THE WIZARD OF GAUZE."
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals S
YO MFTROLYNFO.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: TWO GUYS INVENTED RADIO SIMULTANEOUSLY. I GUESS THEY WERE ON THE SAME WAVELENGTH.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: O equals N

Crossword

ACROSS

1 Leftovers recipe
5 Biz deg.
8 Different-ly
12 Bleacher-ites'
13 Branch
14 "Diff'rent Strokes" star
15 Figure-skating jump
16 Con
18 Hunter's companion
20 Staffers
21 Listening device
22 Hostel
23 Light-heartedly silly
26 "Consum it all!"
30 Dined
31 Enjoy-ment
32 Deterio-ration
33 Turned, as milk
36 Charmer's snake
38 Clark or Rogers

DOWN

1 Mop
2 Cab
3 Inces-santly
4 Used an acetylene torch
5 Main course of study
6 Boast
7 Parisian pal
8 In recession
9 De-posed
10 Paddock
11 Tackles' team-mates
17 Singer k.d.
19 Rotation duration
22 Saturn auto model

Solution time: 21 mins.

S	T	O	P	O	F	F	O	M	E	N
N	O	D	E	C	U	E	P	A	L	E
U	F	O	S	T	R	E	A	T	I	S
B	U	R	E	A	U	T	W	I	N	E
T	I	P	S	L	O	S				
T	R	E	A	D	L	E	S	N	A	M
A	H	A	S	E	E	P	Y	J	O	N
T	O	R	S	T	R	E	A	C	L	E
L	E	W	S	A	R	A				
I	B	I	D	E	M	K	N	E	A	D
T	R	E	A	S	U	R	E	S	C	A
E	A	S	T	A	R	A	R	I	A	
M	E	T	E	E	M	S	R	E	S	T

Yesterday's answer 2-15

Bridge

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ J 10 7
♥ 8 2
♦ A Q J 10 7 4
♣ A J

WEST

♠ 9 6 5 3
♥ J 10 9 6
♦ 9 6
♣ Q 8 2

EAST

♠ Q 8 4
♥ A Q 5 4 3
♦ K 5 2
♣ 6 3

SOUTH

♠ A K 2
♥ K 7
♦ 8 3
♣ K 10 9 7 5 4

The bidding:
South 1 ♣
West Pass
North 1 ♦
East 3 NT
Opening lead — jack of hearts.

Famous Hand — Part Two

Yesterday, we saw how a team that was losing by 53 IMPs with 16 deals to go in the 2004 Vanderbilt Team semifinal managed to tie the match on the very last board when a close double gained an extra IMP to produce the deadlock. Without the double, which netted 100 points rather than 50, Richard Schwartz's team would have lost the 64-deal match to Nick Nickell's squad by a single IMP, about the equivalent of an overtrick.

The tie necessitated an eight-board playoff, and as the players took up their cards for the last deal, Nickell led by — 1 IMP! The bidding shown took place when Peter Boyd and Steve Robinson of the Schwartz team held the North-South cards. Robinson won the jack-of-hearts lead with the king and concluded that East was very likely to hold the diamond king for his vulnerable overcall. Robinson therefore decided to try to develop the club suit. If he could guess which opponent had the queen, and the suit broke 3-2, he would be able to score 10 tricks.

Robinson guessed wrong, though, leading a club to the ace and finessing the jack on the way back. West won with the queen and continued hearts to score a one-trick set, -100. Since Robinson could have made the contract, and because five diamonds also would make, this was not an encouraging result for the Schwartz team.

At the other table, Jeff Meckstroth and Eric Rodwell also got to three notrump after Rodwell opened one notrump as South. Rodwell won West's jack of hearts with the king and, since there had been no opposing bidding, considered the diamond finesse viable. But before attempting the finesse, he correctly opted to add to his chances by first cashing the A-K of clubs, hoping to drop the doubleton queen.

When the queen failed to appear, Rodwell tried the diamond finesse, losing to East's king. East, Larry Cohen, returned a heart to West's nine, and West, Dave Berkowitz, cashed the club queen before returning a heart. Declarer thus finished down two, -200, giving the Schwartz team a 100-point pickup on the deal — worth 3 IMPs — and a 2-IMP overtime victory in the match.

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ J 10 5
♥ A 8 6 4 3
♦ Q 10 7
♣ 6 3

WEST

♠ 4
♥ K J 9 2
♦ 6 5 3
♣ A K Q 10 5

EAST

♠ A 7 6 2
♥ 10 7
♦ 9 4
♣ J 9 8 7 2

SOUTH

♠ K Q 9 8 3
♥ Q 5
♦ A K J 8 2
♣ 4

The bidding:
South 1 ♣
West 2 ♣
North 2 ♣
East 3 ♣
Opening lead — king of clubs.

To be a good declarer, you have to be a worrier. Consider this deal where South, a carefree soul, went down in a contract he should have made.

West led the K-A of clubs. South ruffed the ace and played the king of spades at trick three. East ducked and ducked again when South next led a trump to the ten.

Declarer was now in a hopeless position. He had to go down, whatever he did next. East had the A-7 of trumps left, dummy the singleton jack, and South the Q-9.

If he led another trump, East would take the ace and exhaust him of trumps by returning a club. So South started to run his diamonds. East ruffed the third diamond with the seven and cashed the trump ace, and West later scored a heart trick to put the contract down one. Had South been a worrier, he would have made four spades. He would have allowed for the possibility that the trumps might be divided 4-1, and he would have tried to guard against that possibility.

All he had to do to protect the 10 tricks he had started with was to discard a heart on the ace of clubs at trick two! The heart could be viewed as a loser in any event, so permitting West to win two club tricks instead of a club and a heart in reality amounted to trading an eventual heart loser for an immediate club loser. West would have been stymied by this maneuver. Whatever he did next, South could not lose more than two clubs and a trump.

Family Circus • Bill Keane

