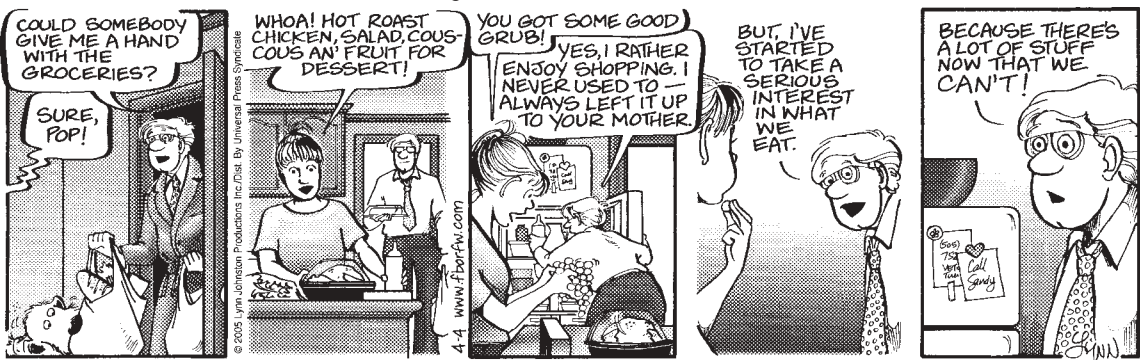
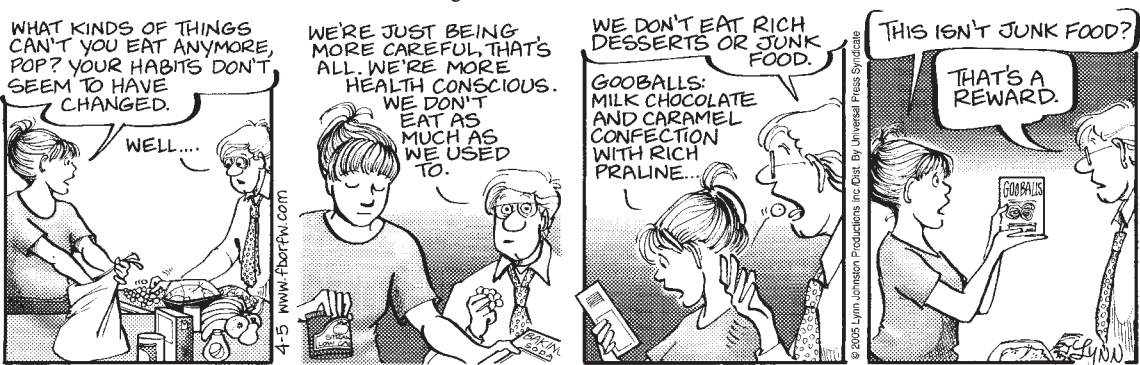


For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



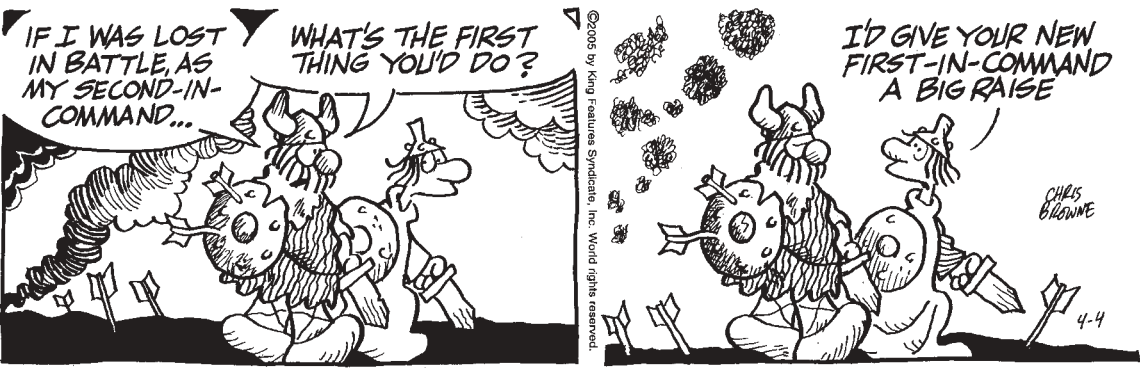
For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



Garfield • Jim Davis



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Blondie • Chic Young



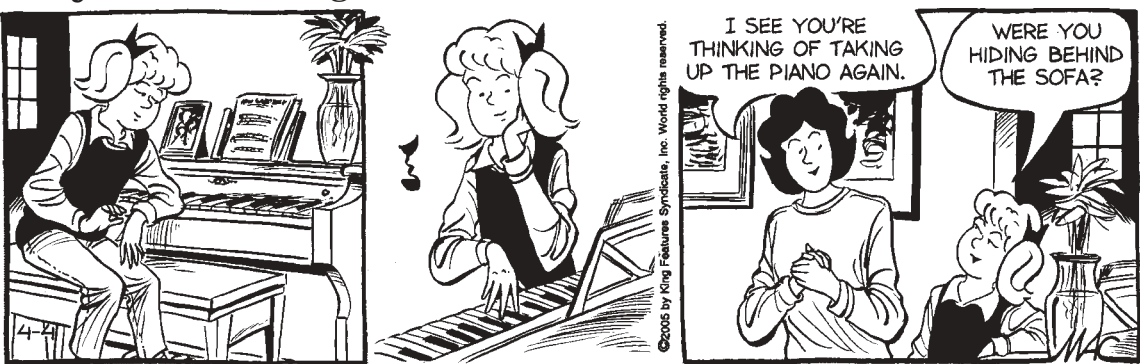
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Cryptoquip

LWR DMNRT DRGRDRR
KRJSQ GMJWL MQ
DXLWNRIINZ KRYSXIR LWR
WST SIYCDR LCIRLLNR
Saturday's Cryptoquip: SINCE THE MASSEUR WAS HARDLY MAKING ENOUGH MONEY, HE KNEADED SOME NEW CLIENTS.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals R

Teacher fights ill-mannered students

DEAR ABBY: I work as a teacher's aide at a private religious elementary school. You would think the children here would be better mannered than most; however, I haven't found that to be true.

Rarely do I ever hear a "please" or "thank you." The other teachers and I politely remind the students to say both "please" and "thank you," but the lesson never seems to sink in. The children tell us their parents don't require such things at home, so they shouldn't have to say "please" and "thank you" or even "excuse me" at school. We have talked to these parents, and they side with their children. What else can we do?

— STUNNED IN SACRAMENTO

DEAR STUNNED: What else can you do? Talk to the children in terms of their own self-interest. Tell them that words like "please," "thank you" and "excuse me" are magic words with great power. People who hear them are far more inclined to accommodate the person who uses these words than someone who doesn't.

Parents who fail to teach their children basic good manners do their children a grave disservice, because good manners and respect for others are essential for success.

DEAR ABBY: My sister and her family live in the Southwest. I live in North Carolina. Ever since their children were born, I have sent them money for birthdays and for the holidays. My husband and I were not blessed with children of our own. The adults in the family exchange cards, but not gifts.

We have decided that when the nieces and nephews reach the age of 18, we would like to stop sending them money. We are not terribly close, but I don't want to hurt anyone's feelings. My nephew will

DEAR ABBY: I am a 29-year-old woman who wants very much to get married. I have been dating a wonderful man who wants to marry me. I'll call him "Byron." Byron is intelligent, kind, generous, comes from the same background I do, and shares my values. In short, he is absolutely everything I have ever dreamed of in a husband. He's not bad-looking, either.

The only problem is I feel very little physical attraction to him. It is not Byron's fault; the chemistry just isn't really there.

I am very confused. Part of me reasons that physical passion tends to fade over the years anyway, and I would be crazy to pass up a man who has so much else to offer. Another part of me feels that I'm not really in love with Byron, so it would be a mistake to marry him.

What should I do? Please hurry your reply — he is waiting for an answer.

— CONFUSED IN CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

Bridge

East dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A J 8 4
♥ K 7
♦ A 7 4
♣ A Q 7 2

WEST
♠ 9 3 2
♥ 10 9 6 5 3
♦ K 2
♣ 6 5 3

EAST
♠ 10 7
♥ A Q 8
♦ Q J 9 6 5
♣ J 10 9

SOUTH
♠ K Q 6 5
♥ J 4 2
♦ 10 8 3
♣ K 8 4

The bidding:
East Pass
South Pass
West Pass
North 1 ♣
1 ♦ 1 ♠ Pass 4 ♠

Opening lead — king of diamonds.

Famous Hand

Sometimes a bit of knowledge about probabilities can be a dangerous thing, as evidenced by this deal from an early-round match between the United States and Denmark at the 1993 World Team Championship.

When a Danish pair held the North-South cards, Dorthe Shaltz became the declarer at four spades on the bidding shown.

Shaltz won West's king-of-diamonds lead with the ace, drew trumps and led the eight of clubs to the queen, on which East, Bobby Levin, dropped the ten. Declarer returned a club to her king as Levin followed with the jack.

Shaltz was now at the crossroads. If she guessed the club position correctly, she could discard a diamond on the fourth club and lose at most two hearts and a diamond.

Relying on the principle of "restricted choice," as well as her knowledge from the bidding that East started with at least five diamonds, Shaltz elected to play East for the doubleton J-10 of clubs.

Accordingly, she led a club to the seven, whereupon Levin won with the nine and cashed two diamonds and the ace of hearts for down one.

At the other table, the opponents were silent throughout, and Mike Becker and Ron Rubin reached three notrump with Rubin, North, as declarer.

East led the diamond queen, ducked all around, and continued a diamond to West's king, which also held. West returned a low heart to East's queen, and East reverted to diamonds, driving out the ace.

Rubin cashed four spades, East discarding a diamond and a heart, and then had to confront the clubs.

He cashed the club ace, also taking care to unblock the eight, and led a club to the king, noting the fall of East's clubs.

After much thought, Rubin led the club four and, when West followed low, also finessed the seven!

East won and cashed his remaining diamond and the heart ace for a two-trick set and a 2-IMP gain for Denmark.

Tomorrow: Bridge is a logical game.
(c)2005 King Features Syndicate Inc.



Abigail Van Buren

• Dear Abby

soon be 18. Any suggestions?

— AUNT MOLLY

DEARAUNTMOLLY: It is not uncommon to stop sending gifts when younger relatives reach adulthood. Look at it this way: Gift-giving puts a burden on young people, too, because they often can't afford to reciprocate, or they aren't particularly close to the sender.

Send your nephew a nice card for his birthday. And at holiday time, send one gift — such as fruit or flowers — for the entire family to enjoy.

DEAR ABBY: I am a 29-year-old woman who wants very much to get married. I have been dating a wonderful man who wants to marry me. I'll call him "Byron." Byron is intelligent, kind, generous, comes from the same background I do, and shares my values. In short, he is absolutely everything I have ever dreamed of in a husband. He's not bad-looking, either.

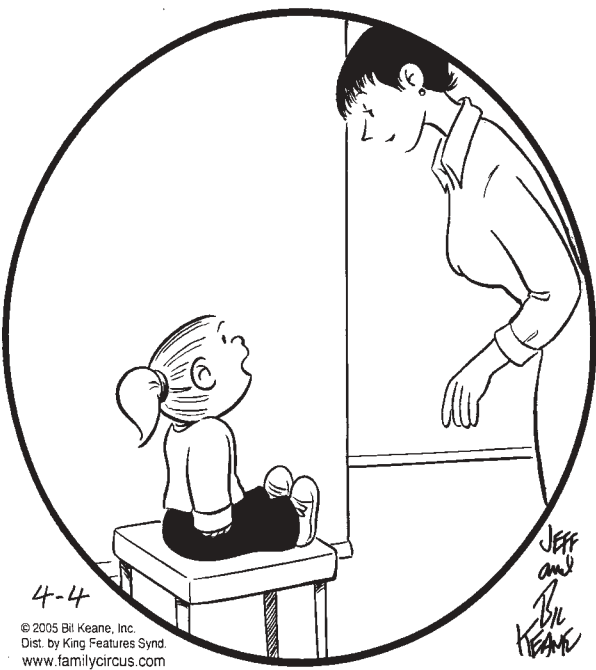
The only problem is I feel very little physical attraction to him. It is not Byron's fault; the chemistry just isn't really there.

I am very confused. Part of me reasons that physical passion tends to fade over the years anyway, and I would be crazy to pass up a man who has so much else to offer. Another part of me feels that I'm not really in love with Byron, so it would be a mistake to marry him.

What should I do? Please hurry your reply — he is waiting for an answer.

— CONFUSED IN CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



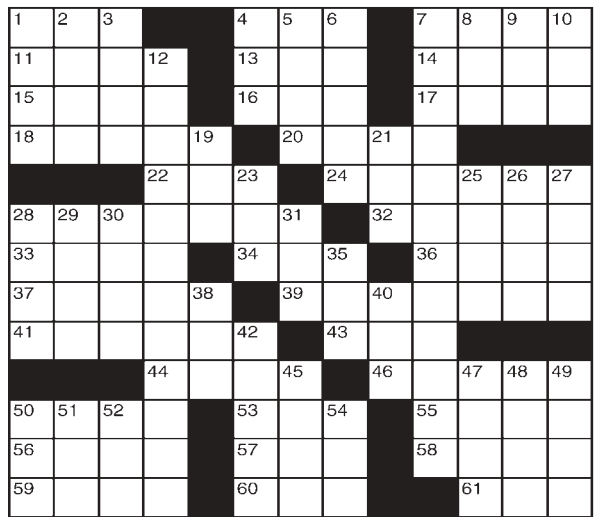
"Mrs. Clarke wants us to sit up straight — like an 'L.' How's this?"

Crossword

ACROSS
1 "— good deed"
4 Beast of burden
7 Equitable
11 "Carmina Burana" composer
13 Mischief-maker
14 Not in operation
15 Gambling game
16 Miss Piggy's pronoun
17 Crease
18 Mill output
20 Summer-time pest
22 Uncivilized
24 Gas components
28 Talk on and on
32 Comedian Anderson
33 Apiece
34 Fix the sound-track
36 Imperfection
37 Detest

DOWN
1 Remove
2 Evangelist
3 Frizzy hairstyle
4 Pick a target
5 Air pollutant
6 Back-bone
7 Liquor quantity
8 Com-motion
9 "— bel!"
10 Blushing
12 Picnic holiday
19 "Go team!"
21 Pac. counter-part
23 Marry
25 Year-end celebration
26 Pinocchio, at times
27 Patches
28 Suitor
29 Some retrievers, for short
30 Longing
31 Skedad-dle
35 Glitch
38 Actress
McClanahan
40 Unruly bunch
42 Memorize
45 Carnival attraction
47 Depend (on)
48 Gilligan's home
49 Agonize (over)
50 Paid player
51 Listener
52 Drilling equipment
54 Matlock's field

Solution time: 24 mins.
Saturday's answer 4-4



THANK YOU FOR READING THE

COLBY FREE PRESS

YOUR LOCAL SOURCE FOR:
NEWS • WEATHER
SPORTS

155 W. 5th • 785-462-3963