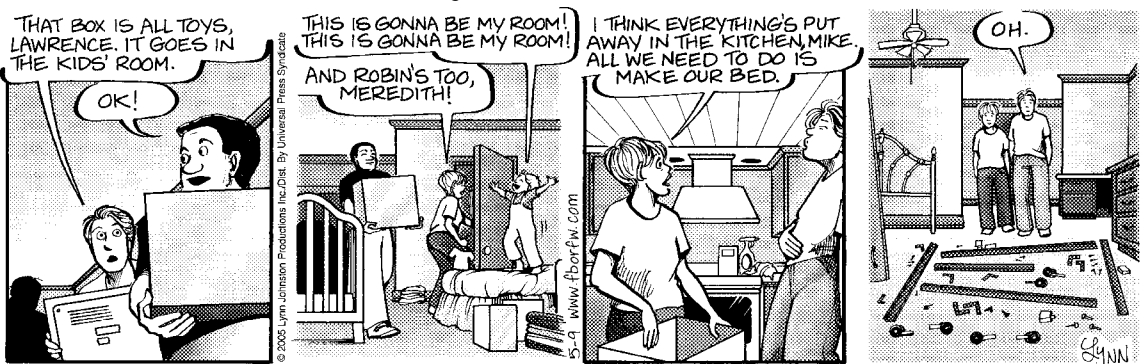
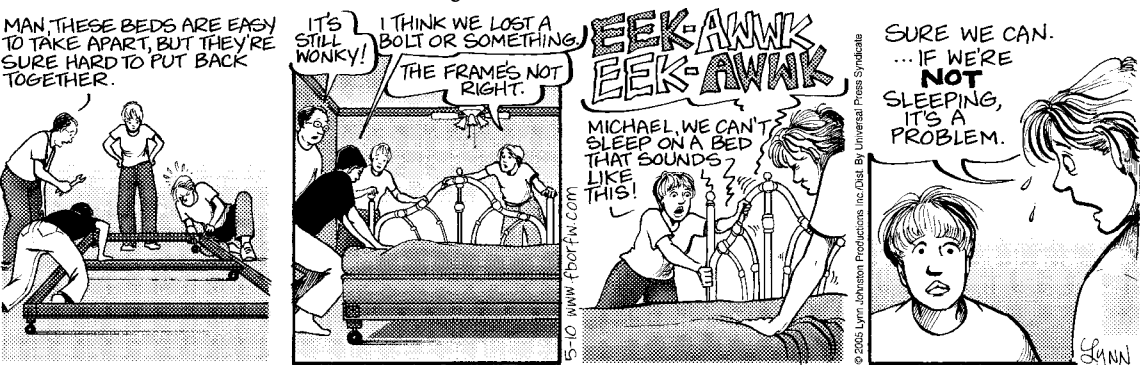


For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



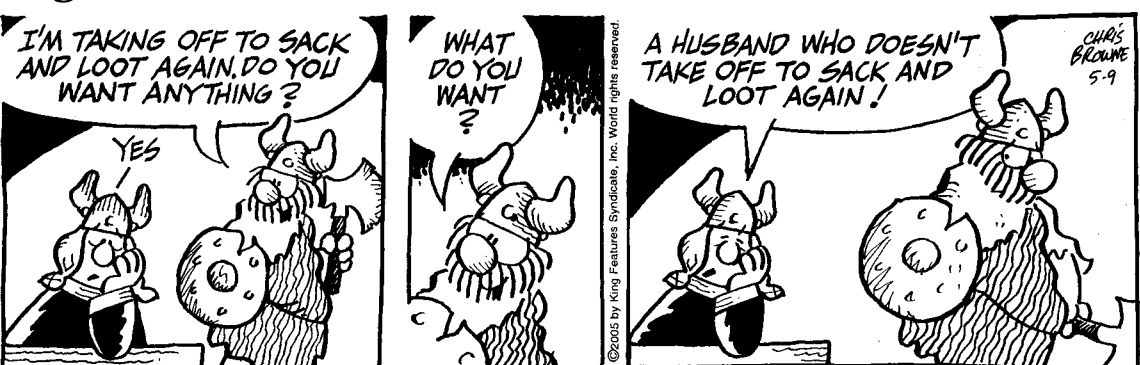
For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



Garfield • Jim Davis



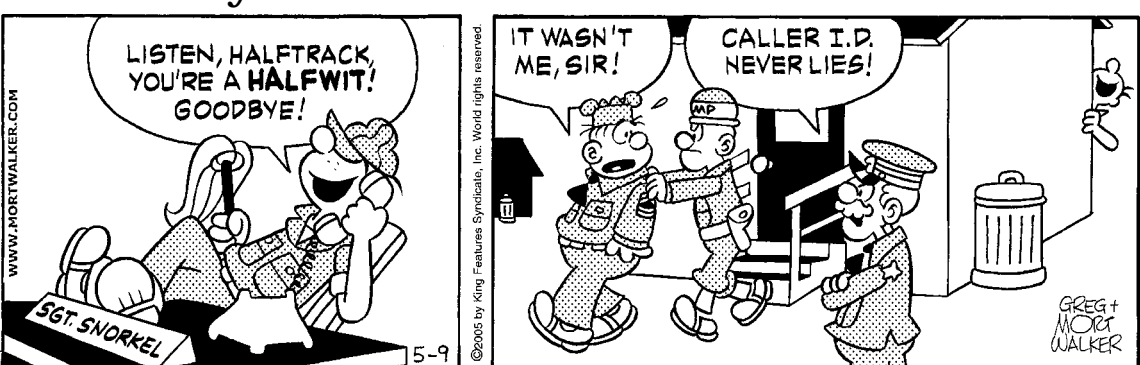
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Blondie • Chic Young



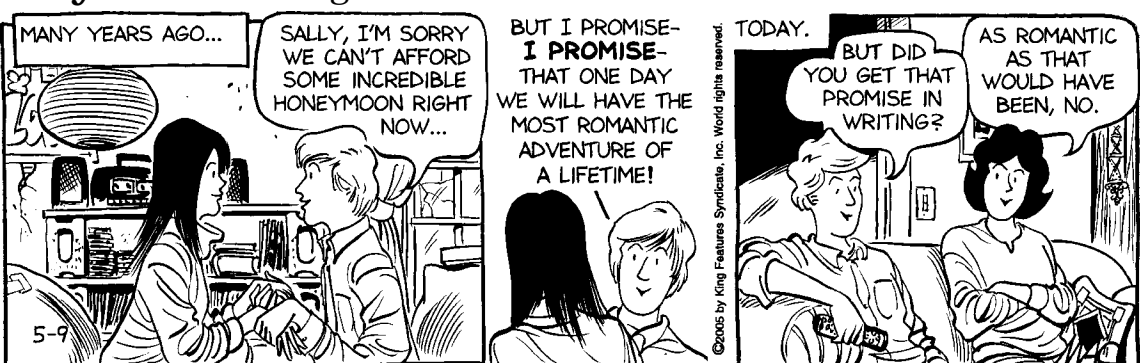
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Cryptoquip

MZM TN NDUUSTEJ TE Z

IUZDDB PGTDDB IYYL, NY

T NFSSYNU BYF LTJGH

NZB GU'N YFH PYDM.

Saturday's Cryptoquip: WHEN A RACE WINNER DOES A VICTORY LAP, I SUPPOSE YOU COULD CALL THAT AN EARNED RUN.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals L

'Perfect' man leaves woman in doubt

DEAR ABBY: I'm in love with the perfect guy, but I have a gnawing worry. "Clayton" and I have been dating for three months. We're so convinced we are meant to be together forever that we have already announced our plans to marry in a few months.

So why the worry? Clayton has been married twice. Both marriages ended because he was unfaithful. Clayton swears he's a changed man. I believe him.

He looks me in the eye and says I'm the one he has searched for and needed his entire life.

I am 30 and have never been married. I can hardly wait to have children with Clayton so we can raise them together. He's excited, too, which surprises me because he's in his mid-40s and has two teenagers. He's very active in their lives. (He and his wife parted amicably.)

I sometimes sense odd vibes from his co-workers and acquaintances, but I'm new in town and no one has come out and said anything about him. I did overhear one person comment as we passed by, "There goes the Casanova of Cleveland."

As I write this, I have even more doubts. Does it mean anything that I'm afraid to tell my father about Clayton's marital and sexual history for fear he won't understand? Please hurry your advice.

— CAN'T WAIT IN OHIO

DEAR CAN'T WAIT: You have been swept off your feet. When someone falls as hard and as fast as you have, emotions rule and it's difficult to think rationally. The "little questions" in the back of your mind are your common sense trying to break through the fog.

Although you say you're afraid to tell your father about your boyfriend's history for fear "he won't understand," I suspect the opposite is true. You're afraid he



Abigail Van Buren

Dear Abby

WILL understand. And while no one has said anything directly to you about Clayton, the comment "There goes the Casanova of Cleveland" carries a pretty direct message.

My advice is to slow down, become engaged for a year, and get to know Clayton much better before rushing to the altar. And please don't try to keep secrets from your father. When someone is as famous — or infamous — as Clayton has made himself, the truth has a way of coming out.

DEAR ABBY: I'm in the 10th grade. Academics are important to me, but so are my friends and hobbies. I'm a member of the rowing team, which practices every morning at 5 a.m., and two days after school.

That means I have to wake up at 4 a.m. to get to practice on time.

I love my crew, but it has taken over my life completely. I fall asleep in class and am too tired to do anything with my girlfriends, plus when I'm not rowing I'm too busy catching up with schoolwork to do anything fun. I feel like I'm missing out on my own life.

I can't miss practice because that would let the girls on my team down and disappoint my coach, plus it would make my teammates' goals unattainable.

I feel trapped, Abby. Quitting is unthinkable; rowing is my life right now. But I also want to have more of a "teenage" experience while I still can.

— TRAPPED IN MY SPORT

IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DEAR TRAPPED: You ARE having a teenage experience. Because you have not learned to budget your time, you have over-extended yourself.

Please discuss this with your teachers and your parents, because you have some important decisions to make.

Your studies must take precedence over your sport, because if they don't, you'll find yourself paddling upstream alone when it's time for college.

DEAR ABBY: Our daughter "Cyndi" is being married this summer. She's in her late 30s and has never been married before. She owns her own home, and both she and her fiancé have good jobs.

My husband and I are retired and live on a very modest income. We have very little discretionary money. We will be traveling from out of state for the wedding, and this in itself will be a financial hardship.

Should we be paying for some of the wedding expenses?

No one has asked us to contribute, but I wonder if it is expected of us. What is customary in this situation?

— WANT TO DO THE RIGHT THING

DEAR WANT: Although it used to be "customary" for the bride's parents to foot the bill for the wedding, with people postponing marriage until their late 20s and into their 30s, that is no longer the case.

A wedding is a GIFT from the parents to the bride and groom, not a requirement. Because your daughter and her fiancé are self-supporting and independent, they should pay for their wedding. Since attending the wedding is already a hardship for you, no more should be expected of you.

Bridge

South dealer.  
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH  
♠ Q J 9 7 6 4  
♥ 8 7 6  
♦ 7 2  
♣ 4 3

WEST  
♠ 5 2  
♥ A Q 9 5 3 2  
♦ 9  
♣ Q 8 7 5

EAST  
♠ 8 3  
♥ 10 4  
♦ J 8 6 4 3  
♣ J 9 6 2

SOUTH  
♠ A K 10  
♥ K J  
♦ A K Q 10 5  
♣ A K 10

The bidding:  
South West North East  
2 ♣ Pass 2 ♦ Pass  
3 ♦ Pass 3 ♠ Pass  
5 ♠ Pass 6 ♠ Pass

Opening lead — ten of hearts.

Famous Hand

This deal occurred in the 1975 world championship match between France and the United States. At the first table, with a U.S. pair North-South, the bidding went as shown.

The first two bids were artificial, but from then on the bidding was natural. North wound up in six spades, East led a heart, and the vulnerable slam quickly went down one.

At the second table, with a French pair North-South, the bidding went:

South West North  
East  
2 C 2 H Pass Pass  
2 NT Pass 3 S Pass  
4 D Pass 4 S Pass  
5 H Dble 5 S Pass  
6 NT

The U.S. West chose the harmless-looking but ultimately disastrous lead of the club five. Declarer won East's jack with the ace and cashed the A-K-Q of diamonds and five spades, producing this position:

North  
S 7  
H 8 7  
C 4

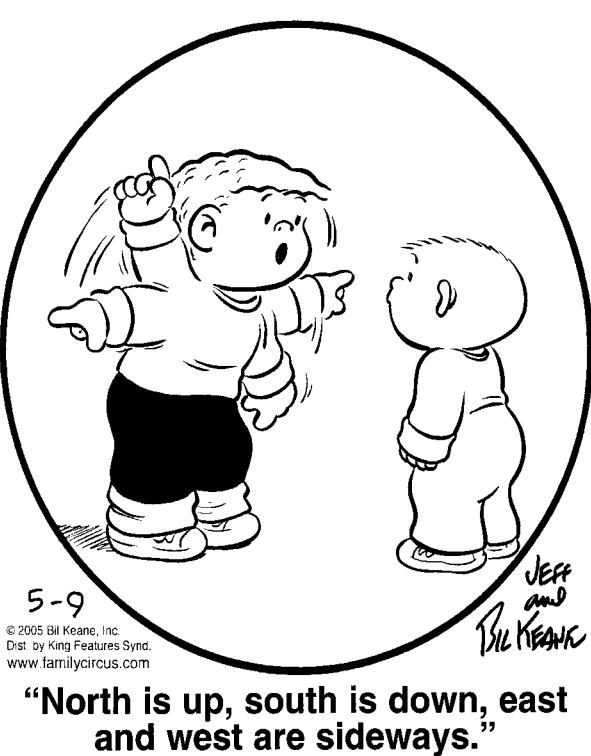
West East  
H A Q H 10  
C Q 8 D J  
C 9 6

South  
H K J  
C K 10

When declarer next played dummy's last spade and discarded the jack of hearts, poor West found himself in deep trouble. He realized that if he discarded a heart, declarer would lead a heart and endplay him. So West discarded the eight of clubs instead. This availed him naught, as declarer read the position perfectly and led a club to the king, dropping West's queen. The ten of clubs then scored the slam-going trick to give France a 1,540-point gain on the deal.

Tomorrow: Spectacular but reasonable.  
(c)2005 King Features Syndicate Inc.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



Crossword

ACROSS  
1 Rapunzel's ladder  
5 Omega preceder  
8 Imprint  
12 Taj Mahal city  
13 Edge  
14 — Alto, Calif.  
15 Slender  
16 Lewis or Clark  
18 August Wilson play  
20 Went by wind-jammer  
21 Briefcase closer  
23 Roman 1,051  
24 Lack of protection  
28 Line of fashion?  
31 Tall tale  
32 Lock  
34 Resort  
35 Needs no alterations  
37 Due

DOWN  
1 Fair share, often  
2 Skewed, to Scots  
3 Dr. Seuss's "If — the Zoo"  
4 South-western farm  
5 Stress  
6 Pack number  
7 Little demons  
8 Victor's due?  
9 First  
10 Sheltered  
11 "Hawaii Five-O" star Jack

Solution time: 24 mins.

CRUMB PURLIE  
BOOTIE OREGON  
IMPRISH ORETO  
OPEC SORTS  
ABLE ERR  
AFT IDLE ONTO  
CLINTEASTWOOD  
EYRE NYSE NOD  
EWE EACH  
HAS LADY APIE  
ALOMAR IMPUGN  
TOMATO SIPPED  
SEERED TRYST

Saturday's answer 5-9



THANK YOU FOR READING THE

COLBY FREE PRESS

YOUR LOCAL SOURCE FOR:  
NEWS • WEATHER  
SPORTS

155 W. 5th • 785-462-3963