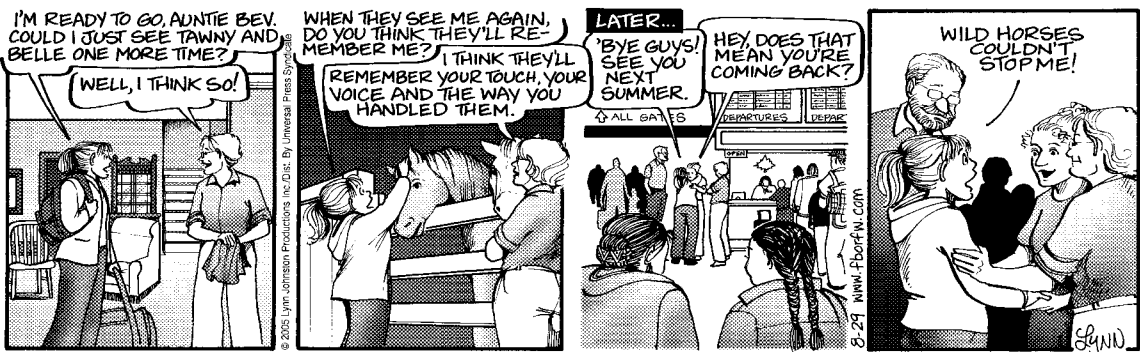


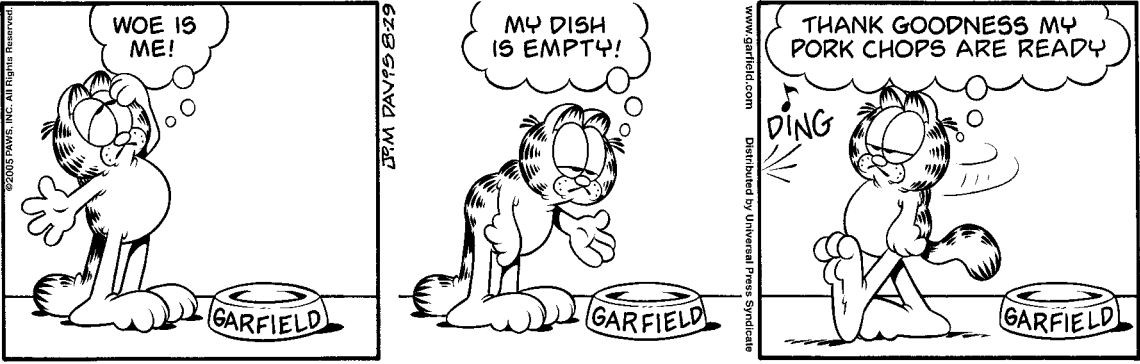
For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



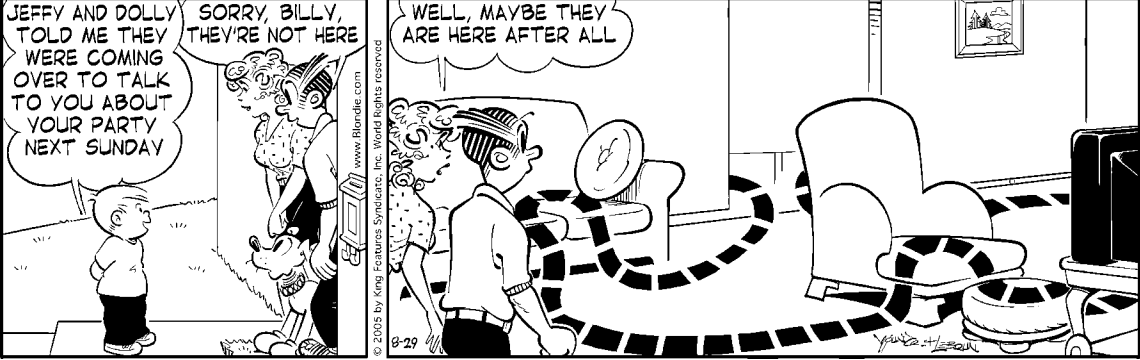
Garfield • Jim Davis



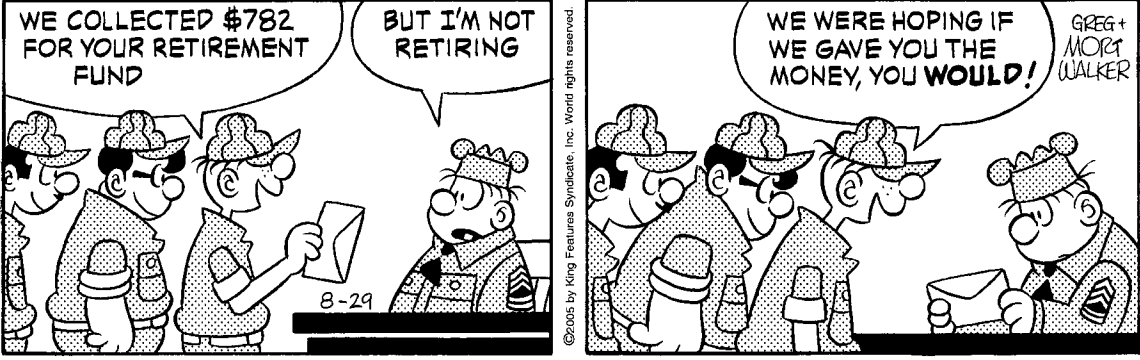
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



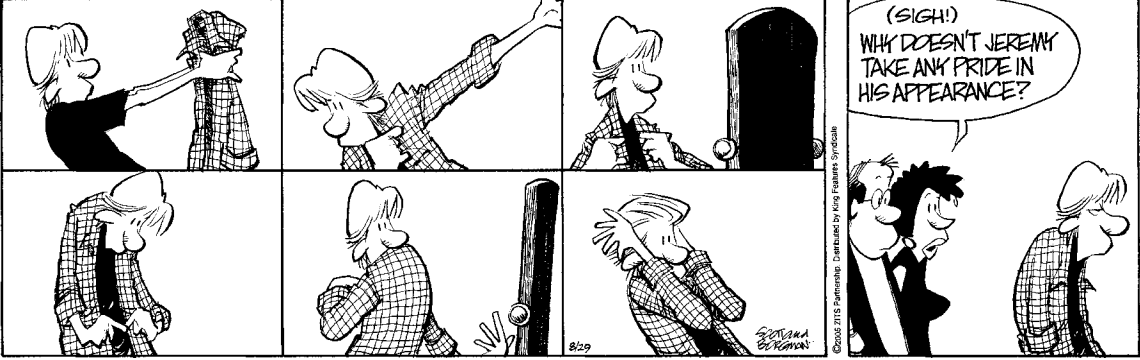
Blondie • Chic Young



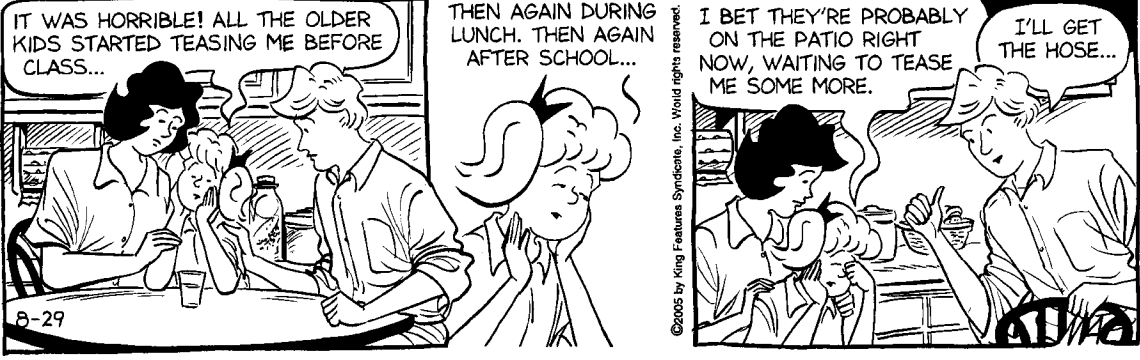
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Cryptoquip

J L R T V S K W J F W P V F Z B
T L P J K M A S T A B W K U Q F
S B J F C A , Z T V O M R T V Z W O O
S B T A Q B T F J F C U J C Q T F A ?
Saturday's Cryptoquip: IF A GUY IS STUDYING MOUNTAIN-CLIMBING TECHNIQUES, COULD HE BE AIDED BY CLIFF NOTES?
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals U

Counterfeit ring still a keepsake

DEAR ABBY: My husband gave me a beautiful diamond and sapphire ring for our anniversary. Because it was too large, I took it to a jeweler who has worked on many pieces for me. After looking at the ring, he asked me where it came from. I told him it was a gift from my husband.

When I asked the jeweler why he asked, he informed me that the sapphire was synthetic and the "diamonds" were, in fact, cubic zirconia. I was shocked, and now I don't know what to do. I'm not certain whether or not to tell my husband. I don't want him to think I don't like the ring, in case he knew what he was purchasing. It is beautiful, and I will love wearing it regardless. However, if he bought the ring thinking it was the real McCoy, he may have spent a lot more on it than it is worth. Because my husband has always given me exquisite jewelry, I suspect he doesn't know. Should I share this information with him?

— STUCK IN STONE MOUNTAIN, GA.

DEAR STUCK: Tell your husband that you took the ring to the jeweler to have it sized and what he told you. Assure him that you love it and want to keep it "regardless." He may have bought it from the Home Shopping Network, or he may have been taken advantage of by a jeweler.

DEAR ABBY: Over the past few years, I have noticed an increased number of restaurants putting the silverware in a napkin and then setting the rolled napkin on a bare table. I have seen this at both casual dining restaurants and even some fine dining establishments.

I was taught to place my napkin on my lap as soon as I sit down, but I don't like leaving my silverware on the bare table. I have tried placing the silverware on the bread plate, creating an awkward pile that is not

Bridge

South dealer.

Both sides vulnerable.

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

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
2 ♥	2 ♠	Pass	3 ♠
3 NT	Pass	Pass	4 ♠
4 NT	Dble		

Opening lead — king of spades.

Famous Hand

This deal occurred in the Open Pairs at the Eastern States Regional tournament more than 60 years ago.

The heroine was Helen Sobel, considered by many to have been the greatest woman player of all time.

Sobel was South and opened with two hearts. Had the opposition remained silent, she no doubt would have settled into a quiet four hearts, making exactly.

But when East-West began bidding spades, Sobel adopted a different strategy.

Looking at 10 tricks in her own hand, and certain West would lead a spade, she bid notrump at both her second and third turns!

True, she didn't have the "book" distribution for notrump play, but this didn't stop her from making what she considered to be the best bid under the circumstances.

She had not, after all, achieved her reputation by rigidly following textbook principles.

West doubled four notrump, but wound up taking second money when Sobel ran off the first 10 tricks for a score of +810.

At several other tables, East-West also reached four spades, but at most of these tables, less imaginative Souths continued on to five hearts and went down one.

The four-spade bidders who got doubled fared badly — although not quite as badly as the pair that doubled four notrump.

North led his singleton heart, and South cashed two hearts and the ace of diamonds before leading a third heart.

There was then no way declarer could prevent North from scoring a trump trick either immediately or eventually, and West wound up down three for an 800-point set.

Tomorrow: The long-term view.
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Abigail Van Buren

• Dear Abby

conductive to eating bread, especially when butter gets involved. When there is no bread plate, I have resorted to placing my silverware on a sugar packet — a faux pas, but I'd prefer that to leaving my silverware on a bare table.

— GERM-PHOBIC

DEAR GERM-PHOBIC: Ask your server for some extra cloth napkins so you can "create" your own placemat. If you (nicely) express your concerns to your server, most restaurants will happily accommodate your request. Alternatively, you can bring your own disposable paper placemat with you. (Buy a package at the market and keep it in your car.)

DEAR ABBY: Next week I go back to school. I'm only 11, and I'm scared to go to middle school. I miss everyone at my old school. I miss my best friend. We met when we were 6. She isn't going to middle school. I feel so sad, like everything has changed.

— GOING TO MIDDLE SCHOOL

DEAR GOING: Yes, as a matter of fact, it did. I was a couple of years older than you when my parents left the Midwest and moved to California. Let me share with you what I learned from the experience. Although changing schools can be scary, it can also be the start of a great adventure. Change is a fact of life. Please don't let it make you sad, because it's usually for the better. Trust me. P.S. And just because you aren't at the same school doesn't mean you won't spend time with

your friend anymore.

DEAR ABBY: My husband's sister, "Dayna," is moving here from her mother's house, 200 miles away. She says she needs to get away from her mother. My husband, without consulting me, told her she could stay with us.

Dayna and I don't get along, and never have. I have problems with my mother-in-law, too, and I know that within a few months she'll be moving right behind her daughter. My husband's family has caused a lot of problems in our marriage. If there isn't any commotion in their lives, they have to create it. We moved here to get away from them.

If that isn't enough, I am due to give birth to our third child any day. I cringe when I think of another adult in our house, because we don't have room. My husband says he told Dayna she'll have to find a place of her own within a couple of weeks, but I don't see that happening. She doesn't even have a car.

— ABOUT TO DELIVER

DEAR ABOUT TO DELIVER: Tell your husband that with your due date so close, having another adult in a crowded house will not work. Then pick up the phone, call your sister-in-law and inform her that with the arrival of the new baby, you'll be unable to accommodate her after all. Therefore, she'll have to stay elsewhere while she looks for a job and lodging — or postpone her escape from her mother. Do it NOW. Nothing is more important than your health and well-being — and that of your baby — at this time.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



"No, Mommy. Just till you make me stop."

Crossword

ACROSS				DOWN			
1	Recognize	5	Stitch	9	Actor Byrnes	13	Patella
8	Atomizer output	12	Zilch, in Xochimilco	15	Satan's specialty	19	Mother of Don Juan
13	Carte lead-in	16	Sink attachment	20	Fling forcefully	24	Give out
14	"The — love belongs ..."	21	Draftable	23	Apiece	28	Foolish
15	Satan's specialty	22	Patella	25	Give out	31	Commotion
16	Sink attachment	23	Apiece	32	Greek consonants	35	Baby's first word, often
17	Dog's kid	31	Commotion	33	Greek consonants	37	First word, often
18	Pupil's cover	32	Greek consonants	34	Spy org.	38	Eleven
19	Mother of Don Juan	33	Greek consonants	35	Baby's first word, often	39	Eleven
20	Fling forcefully	34	Spy org.	40	Eleven	41	Eleven
21	Draftable	35	Baby's first word, often	42	Eleven	43	Eleven
22	Patella	40	Eleven	44	Eleven	45	Eleven
23	Apiece	41	Eleven	46	Eleven	47	Eleven
24	Give out	42	Eleven	48	Eleven	49	Eleven
25	Give out	43	Eleven	50	Eleven	51	Eleven
26	Give out	44	Eleven	52	Eleven	53	Eleven
27	Give out	45	Eleven	54	Eleven	55	Eleven
28	Give out	46	Eleven	56	Eleven	57	Eleven
29	Give out	47	Eleven	58	Eleven	59	Eleven
30	Give out	48	Eleven	60	Eleven	61	Eleven
31	Give out	49	Eleven	62	Eleven	63	Eleven
32	Give out	50	Eleven	64	Eleven	65	Eleven
33	Give out	51	Eleven	66	Eleven	67	Eleven
34	Give out	52	Eleven	68	Eleven	69	Eleven
35	Give out	53	Eleven	70	Eleven	71	Eleven
36	Give out	54	Eleven	72	Eleven	73	Eleven
37	Give out	55	Eleven	74	Eleven	75	Eleven
38	Give out	56	Eleven	76	Eleven	77	Eleven
39	Give out	57	Eleven	78	Eleven	79	Eleven
40	Give out	58	Eleven	80	Eleven	81	Eleven
41	Give out	59	Eleven	82	Eleven	83	Eleven
42	Give out	60	Eleven	84	Eleven	85	Eleven
43	Give out	61	Eleven	86	Eleven	87	Eleven
44	Give out	62	Eleven	88	Eleven	89	Eleven
45	Give out	63	Eleven	90	Eleven	91	Eleven
46	Give out	64	Eleven	92	Eleven	93	Eleven
47	Give out	65	Eleven	94	Eleven	95	Eleven
48	Give out	66	Eleven	96	Eleven	97	Eleven
49	Give out	67	Eleven	98	Eleven	99	Eleven
50	Give out	68	Eleven	100	Eleven	101	Eleven
51	Give out	69	Eleven	102	Eleven	103	Eleven
52	Give out	70	Eleven	104	Eleven	105	Eleven
53	Give out	71	Eleven	106	Eleven	107	Eleven
54	Give out	72	Eleven	108	Eleven	109	Eleven
55	Give out	73	Eleven	110	Eleven	111	Eleven

THANK YOU FOR READING THE

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