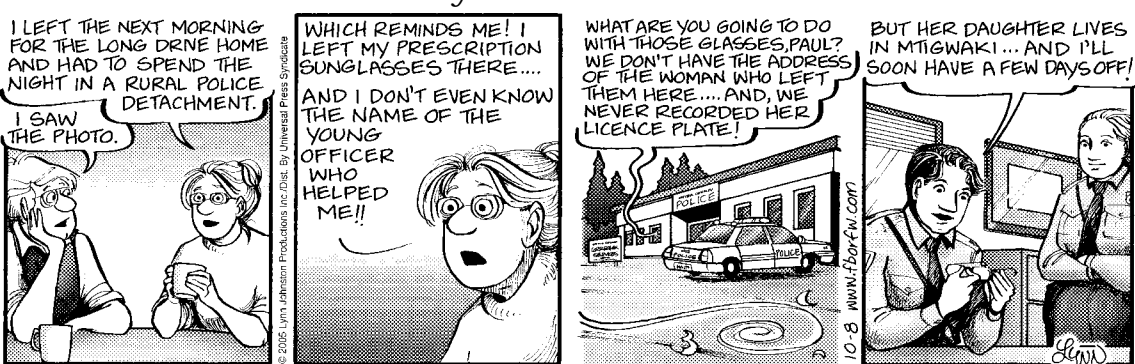
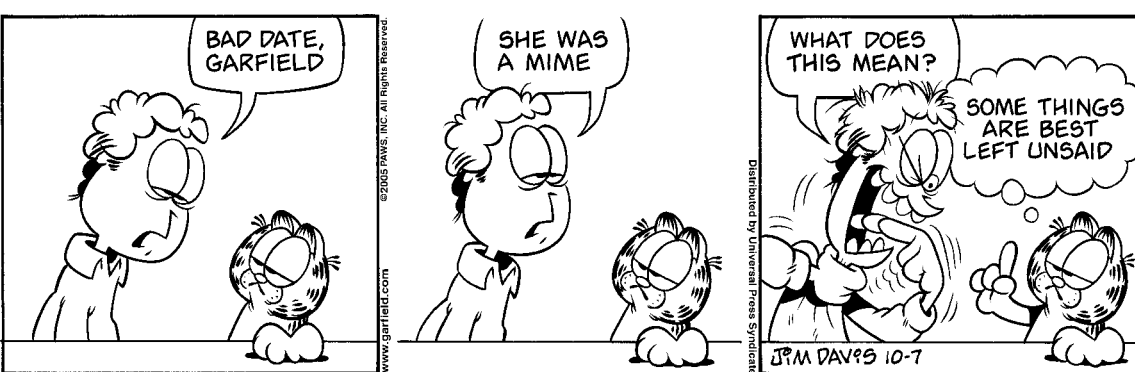


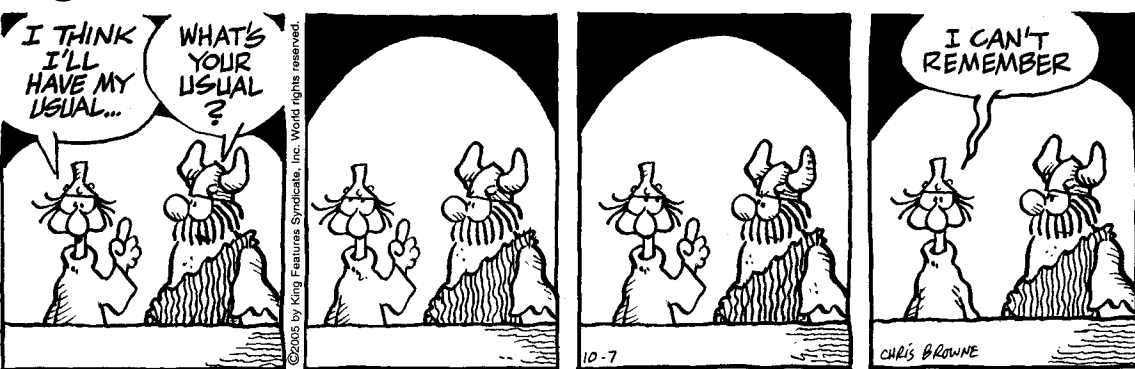
For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



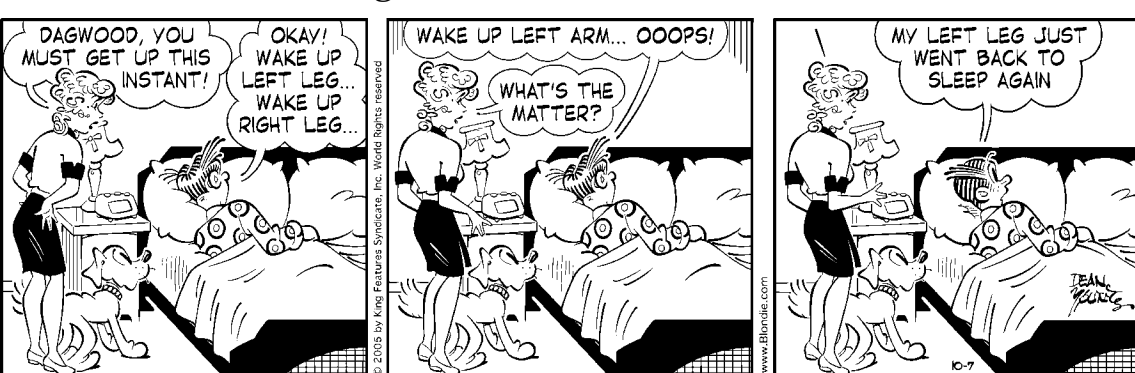
Garfield • Jim Davis



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Blondie • Chic Young



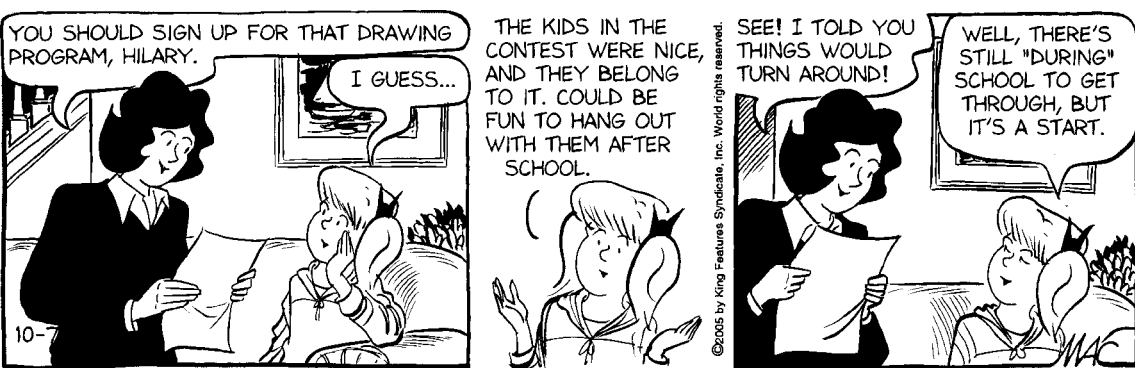
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



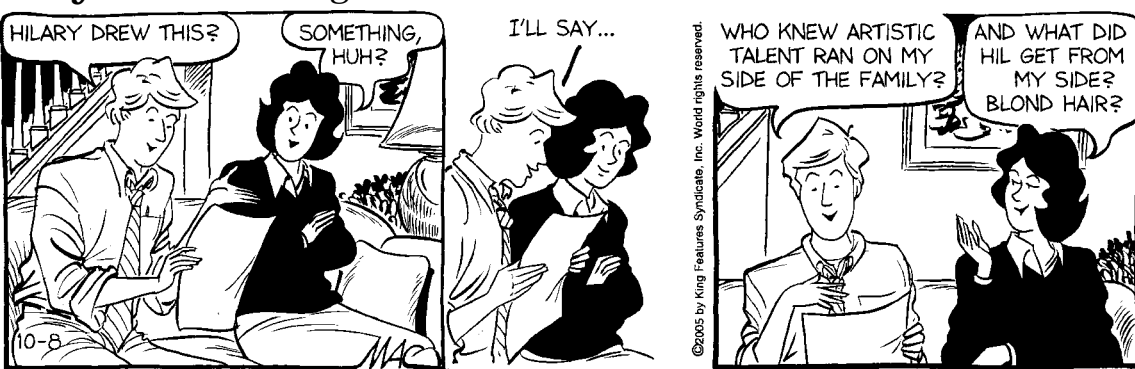
Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Cryptoquip

AJV MZDHS QY YBNJ H ZCRDV TFJ OMY Y IFKXG
XVSZMSVK FJQCHSAJXZFQYA, YCNH "VKMQGRKHGGCFQ,"
YJV ZBPJA AZ NJHSPV JVX "ICONHXQHGG" MQX
SHDV AZ NXHH CZAA.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I WANT TO BE A WORLD-FAMOUS PLUMBER SOMEDAY, BUT UNFORTUNATELY IT'S ONLY A PIPE DREAM.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals H
"JQRFXYCQHGG" GCQ-FQTZG?
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THE WOMAN IS SUCH A RENOWNED PHILANTHROPIST, SHE OUGHT TO CHANGE HER NAME TO CARA LOTT.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals U

Crossword

ACROSS

1 What everybody wants to know? (Abbr.)
4 Carrey or Nabors
7 Anorak
12 Romanian money
13 End of a school's URL
14 Basketry material
15 Spoon-bender Geller
16 Horn
18 Morsel
19 "Awakenings" author
20 Burpee product
22 It's definite
23 Spacecraft compartments
27 Candle count
29 Like some ISPs
31 Fred's sister
34 Sailor's blouse

35 1980 Blondie hit
37 Neutral color
38 Tube trophy
39 Midnight, in a sense
41 Arduous journey
45 Skin-care brand
47 Pink-slip
48 Some who stand by?
52 Bottom line
53 Coffee enhancer
54 Agt.
55 Mythical creature
56 Rich pastry

57 Gridiron meas.
58 Ultimate

DOWN

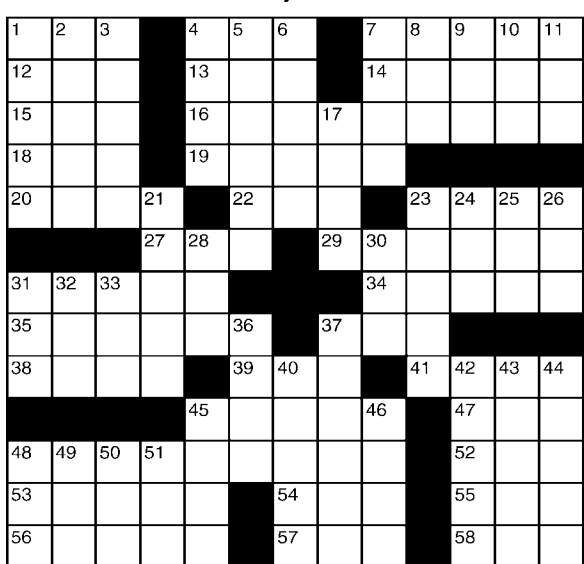
1 Slip-ups
2 Imposing nest
3 Very
4 "West Side Story" gang
5 Conceive
6 Erosion preventive
7 Band in Boston
8 Blond shade
9 Carnival city
10 Barbie's ex
11 Exist
17 Stretched (out)

21 Waste time
23 Rembrandt's supply
24 On in years
25 Flop
26 Keep tabs (on)
28 Ritzy rock
30 "— Little Teapot"
31 Expert
32 Engineering project
33 Freddy's street
36 Egress
37 In layers
40 Off-white
42 Wouldn't shut up
43 Put forth
44 Sailing vessel
45 Appellation
46 Venomous vipers
48 Halloween mo.
49 Golf instructor
50 24/7, poetically
51 Hamelin menace

Solution time: 25 mins.

RAH	POLE	DAVE			
AMY	REEL	ONER			
WIST	ERIA	OTIS			
TAM	STERILE				
STEREO	ELM				
AIR	DUB	FATAL			
SLID	TUG	NEMO			
STAI	D	GAL	REN		
	VIM	SEWING			
INTERIM	GAY				
NOIR	TERIGARR				
KONG	TACO	KEY			
SKYE	STAN	ICE			

Yesterday's answer 10-7



ACROSS

1 Stocky horse
4 "It's what's for dinner"
8 Overly proper one
12 Guitar's kin
13 Winglike
14 Vagrant
15 Support system?
16 Foundation
17 Set down
18 Retracts a statement
21 Scuttle
22 Whammy
23 Egret's cousin
26 Lange of "The Love Boat"
27 Plethora
30 Riding
31 Bit of wordplay
32 CNN interviewer

33 A welcome sight?
34 Irritate
35 Hardly prolix
36 Rattle
37 Beatitudes verb
38 Begin resignedly
45 Tend texts
46 Grad
47 Mimic
48 Admonisher's word
49 Tower city
50 Blend
51 Dispatch
52 Wittedness
53 Performance

DOWN

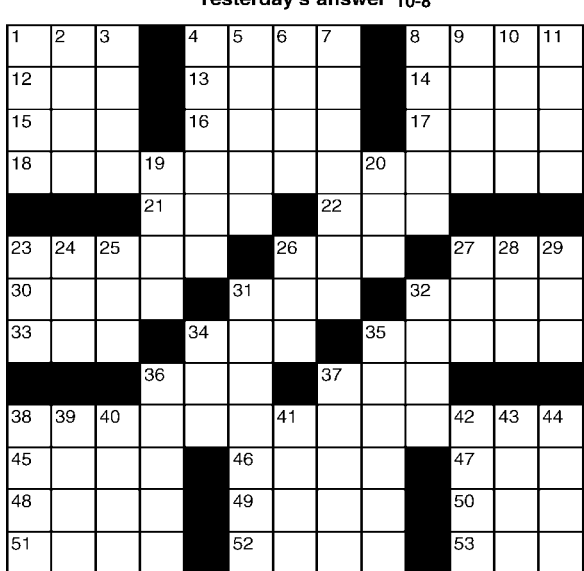
1 Rubik's baffler
2 Gumbo ingredient
3 Tempo
4 Monkey suit
5 Serengeti antelope
6 Relaxation
7 Rejuvenate
8 Moss pink
9 Bellow
10 Footnote abbr.
11 Pantheon group
19 Buy stuff
20 Become one
23 Unlikely Oscar nominee
24 JFK info

25 Deterioration
26 Monkey
27 Round Table address
28 Type units
29 Mellow
31 Possibly
32 Ship part
34 Cistern
35 "Loser" in a famous 1948 headline
36 Pier
37 Mistreatment
38 Hotel accommodations
39 Pedestal occupant
40 Turner or Louise
41 Writer Wiesel
42 Tibetan monk
43 DeMille movie, often
44 Libretto

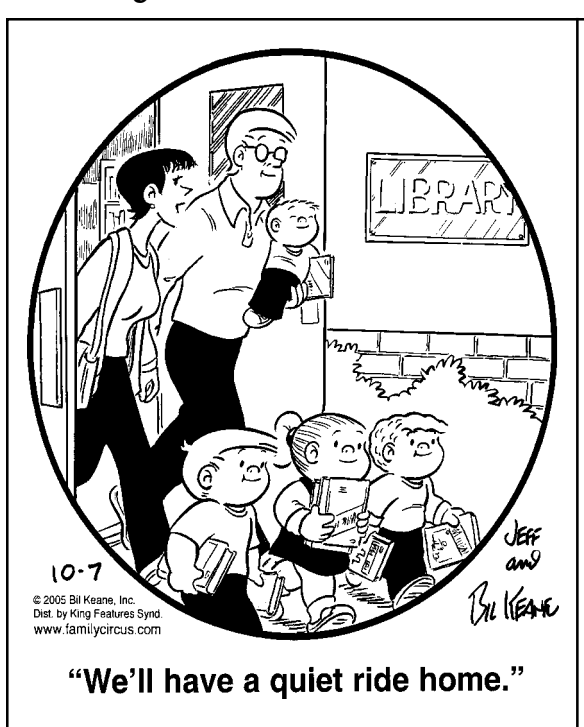
Solution time: 27 mins.

FAO	JIM	PARKA			
LEU	EDU	OSIER			
URI	TELEPHONE				
BIT	SACKS				
SEED	THE	PODS			
	AGE	DIALUP			
ADELE	MI	MIDDY			
CALL	ME	TAN			
EMMY	XII	TREK			
	NIVEA	AXE			
OPERATORS	NET				
CREAM	REP	ORG			
TORT	YE	DS	NTH		

Yesterday's answer 10-8



Family Circus • Bill Keane



Bridge

Test Your Play

1. You are declarer with the West hand at Six Diamonds, and North leads the queen of spades. How would you play the hand?

WEST

EAST

S AK S 3
H 7 HAK 643
D AKQJ 109 D 75
C 7543 CA 10982

2. You are declarer with the West hand at Four Hearts, North having bid one spade over your opening one-heart bid. North leads the jack of clubs, on which South plays the seven. How would you play the hand?

WEST

EAST

S K 2 S 103
HKJ 973 HAQ 1054
D 54 DAJ 8
CAK 83 C542

1. To draw trumps and rely entirely on a 2-2 club break — a 40 percent probability — would be pushing your luck too far. You can improve your chances greatly by playing for a 4-3 division in hearts, a 62 percent probability.

Accordingly, you win the opening spade lead with the ace, cash the ace of trumps and, assuming everyone follows suit, next cash the A-K of hearts and ruff a heart. If the opponents follow to all three rounds of hearts, ruff the king of spades in dummy, ruff another heart, draw trumps and claim six, scoring your 12th trick with dummy's six of hearts.

If the hearts do not divide 4-3, you can still make the contract if the clubs are 2-2 and the trumps break normally. Testing the hearts before touching the club suit gives you two chances to make the slam instead of just one.

2. Your best chance is to duck the club lead, hoping the opposing clubs are divided 3-3. In that event, after drawing trumps and cashing the A-K of clubs, you will be able to discard a spade from dummy on your fourth club and thereby limit yourself to one spade loser.

For his overall, North might have a hand something like:

S AQJ74 H 62 D K92 C J106

If you make the mistake of winning the opening club lead, there will be no way to stop South from later gaining the lead with a club or a diamond for the killing spade return.

South dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH

♦ 4 3 2
♥ 10 8 3 2
♦ 10 6 5 2
♣ K 7

WEST

♦ 10 9
♥ J 9 7 6
♦ J 9 8 7
♣ Q J 10

EAST

♦ J 8 7 6
♥ 5 4
♦ 4 3
♣ 8 5 4 3 2

SOUTH

♦ A K Q 5
♥ A K Q
♦ A K Q
♣ A 9 6

The bidding:

South 4 NT
West Pass
North 5 NT
East Pass

Opening lead — queen of clubs.

Never Say Die

This deal was reported in a 1940 magazine article by the famous bridge writer Robert Gray of Scotland.

The bidding went as shown, and West led the club queen. South took the trick with the ace, retaining the king as an entry to dummy. He then cashed the A-K-Q of hearts and A-K-Q of diamonds, hoping the jack of either suit would fall and provide him with a 12th trick.

Unfortunately, West had the J-9-x-x of both red suits. Declarer then cashed the A-K-Q of spades, hoping to find the spades divided 3-3. Alas, they also broke 4-2. Crushed by these unlucky developments, South thereupon threw in his cards, conceding down one. Actually, it was the only wrong move he made during the play, since this was the three-card position that had at that point developed:

North

H 10
D 10
C K

West

H J
D J
C J

East

S J
C 8 5

South

S 5
C 9 6

To make the slam, all South had to do now was to lead the five of spades. West cannot afford to discard either red jack, so he must discard the jack of clubs. South counters by discarding the club king from dummy, whereupon East, after taking the spade five with the jack, is forced to return a club from his 8-5 to South's 9-6, and the slam is home.

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