



Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott (Sample)



For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Garfield • Jim Davis





Blondie • Chic Young

(WE'D LIKE FOR YOU TO CATER OUR ANNUAL PROCRASTINATORS' GALA THIS SATURDAY	I COULDN'T POSSIBLY PREPARE ANYTHING BY THEN!	NOT A PROBLEM OUR INVITATIONS WON'T BE READY UNTIL NEXT WEEK

	ACROSS	38 Watchful DOWN	19 Law 101		
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Crossword

35 — del Sol

37 Foolproof

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Yesterday's answer 5-26

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Bridge — Test Your Play

51 Bottom

line

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

WEST	EAST
• 10 8 7 3	🛧 A K Q
♥10	♥A865
♦ A K Q J 9	♦ 10 8 2
♣ K 7 2	A 5 3

2. You are declarer with the West hand at Three Notrump, and North leads the five of clubs, on which South plays the jack. How would you play the hand?

WEST	EAST
🕈 A K J 3	♠Q 10 5
♥Q64	♥ K J 7 2
♦ Q 5 2	♦ K 10 6 4
♣ÂQ 10	• 63
*	* *

Test Your Play

1. Win with the ace, ruff a heart with the jack, cash the ace of diamonds and lead the diamond nine to the ten. If both opponents follow suit, ruff another heart, play a spade to the queen and ruff dummy's last heart with your last trump.

Now lead a club to the ace, cash the eight of diamonds (discarding a club) and play the A-K of spades. If the spades are divided 3-3, or if the jack falls singleton or doubleton, you make seven; otherwise, you make six.

If you drew trumps right away instead of ruffing dummy's hearts, you would be committing yourself to a favorable spade division to make the slam. That is what you'd be forced to rely on if the trumps split 4-1, but once you disclose a 3-2 division at trick four, you are sure of making the slam by ruffing dummy's hearts. By scoring six trump tricks instead of the obvious five, you raise your total from 11 tricks to 12.

2. The contract can be made no matter how the North-South cards are distributed, but the proper procedure must be followed to assure nine tricks. It would be wrong to lead a heart from your hand at trick two because you could go down if South took the jack with the ace and returned a club, and it turned out that North had the ace of diamonds plus five or six clubs to the king, and the opposing hearts failed to divide 3-3.

The proper play is to lead a spade to the ten at trick two, followed by a low heart from dummy. If South has the ace, he cannot profitably play it that would give you nine tricks — so let's assume he follows low. After you win with the queen, you lead the jack of spades to the queen and return a low diamond. Again South must duck if he holds the ace, giving you eight tricks, and you then revert to hearts to nail down number nine.

The outcome is the same if North has either or both red aces, as he cannot safely return a club after taking either ace.

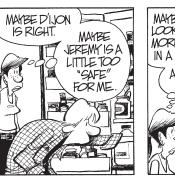
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Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Cryptoquip





IF WE'RE LUCKY

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ABTN, D KWJJLKT DA	RTBKK CBQCUB YQTUZ
RLWPE YT H NDKKDPT ALX. Yesterday's Cryptoquip: GET A LOAD OF	KFA AQT'IB UBDBU-GBFZBZ. Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN SOMEONE
THOSE SNAKES IN THE DISTANCE MAKING MISCHIEF. OH WELL, BOAS WILL BE BOAS!	PULLS A BALLISTIC WEAPON BEHIND THEM, I SUPPOSE IT COULD BE A MISSILE TOW.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Y equals B	Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals V

Family Circus • Bill Keane



"Let's say a little prayer that Mommy doesn't notice it."

Opening lead — ten of diamonds.

The Battle for Survival

To succeed at bridge, a player must possess the capacity to shrug off an adverse development and get on with the business at hand. Lacking this capacity, the player might easily overlook a means of overcoming the initial misfortune.

Consider this deal where South bid aggressively to reach a reasonable six-club contract. Declarer ruffed the opening diamond lead after following low from dummy, then cashed the A-K of clubs.

When West showed out on the second trump lead, South appeared to have two certain losers, a club and a heart. But rather than dwell on the unfriendly trump split, declarer instead focused his attention on trying to find a way to salvage his contract.

In due course, he hit on a distinct possibility, made more likely by East's overcall and the fact that he had already turned up with three clubs: If East held fewer than two hearts, the slam could still be made.

Accordingly, declarer next cashed three spades, and when East followed to all three, South knew he was almost home. Now came the key play at trick seven, the ace of hearts was cashed, setting the stage for the coup de grace.

Having reduced East's hand to five diamonds and the queen of clubs, declarer exited with a club, forcing East to win and return a diamond. In practice East led the ace, ruffed by South. Dummy was then entered with the king of hearts, and a heart was discarded on the king of diamonds to make the slam.

Observe that if declarer had not cashed the heart ace before putting East in with the club, East could have exited safely with a heart. Also, if South had taken the king of hearts at any point prior to throwing East on lead, there would have been no entry in dummy to reach the king of diamonds after it became established.