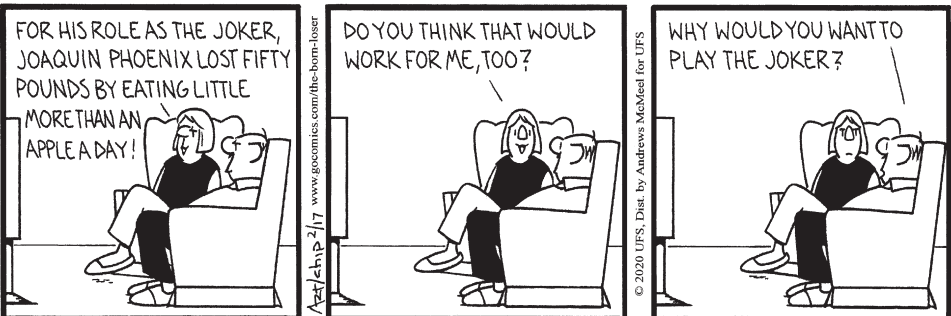


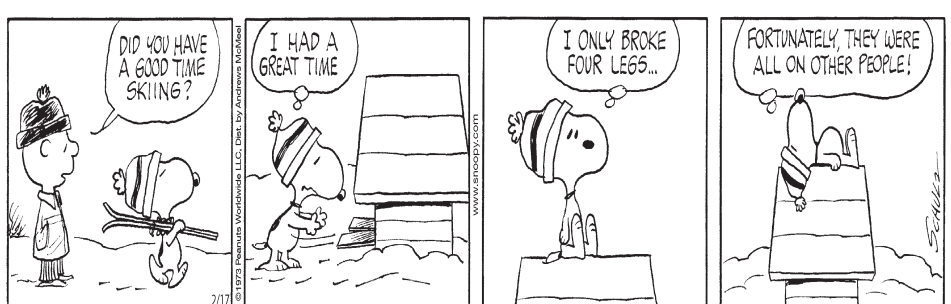
THE BORN LOSER by Art Sampson



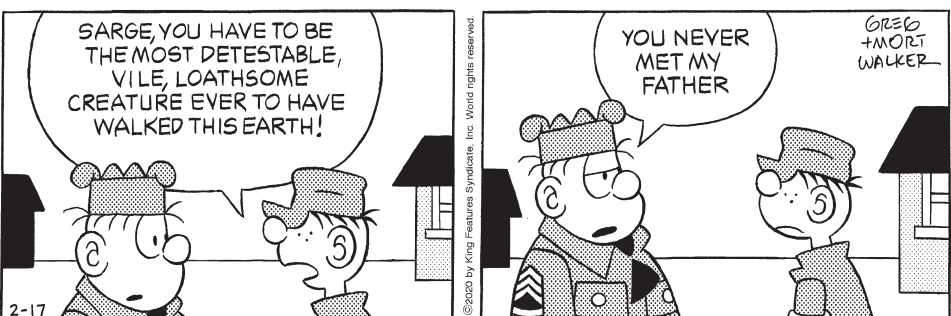
GRIZZWELLS by Bill Schorr



PEANUTS by Charles M. Schulz



BEETLE BAILEY® by Mort Walker



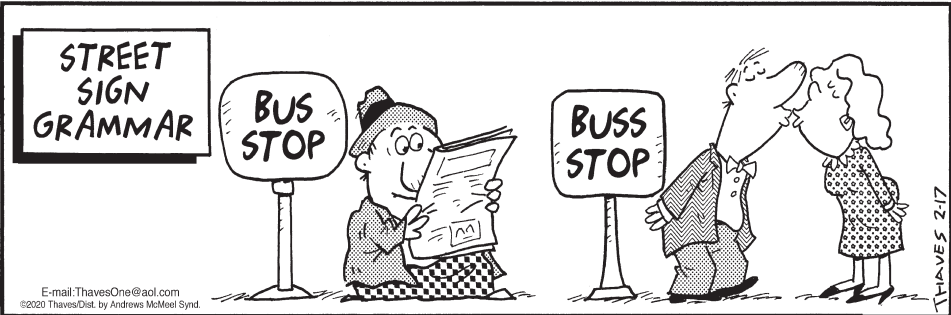
BLONDIE® by Dean Young



ALLEY OOP® by Dave Graue and Jack Bender



FRANK AND ERNEST® by Bob Thaves



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE® by Dik Browne



GARFIELD® by Jim Davis



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Capsule
5 Sauna site
8 Faculty mem.
12 Cleveland's lake
13 Mountain pass
14 Greek letter
15 Selleck and Jones
16 Addendum
18 Get cozy
20 Highland miss
21 Come to a conclusion
22 Hose down
23 Short outing
26 Venice byways
29 Holy terrors
30 Zeus' wife
31 Yale athlete
33 Flower planting
34 Audition goal
35 Soon, to a poet
36 Like ants

DOWN

1 — peeve
2 Common metal
3 Cement component
4 Wanes
5 Recipe direction
6 Bishop of Rome
7 Climber's challenge

38 Concrete foundations
39 Not strict
40 Machine part
41 Add warmth
43 Kind-hearted
46 Congress member
48 — Scotia
50 Beg pardon!
51 Be billed
52 From square one
53 Big steel town
54 Mich. neighbor
55 Apple remnant

DOWN

1 — peeve
2 Common metal
3 Cement component
4 Wanes
5 Recipe direction
6 Bishop of Rome
7 Climber's challenge

Answer to Previous Puzzle

E	Y	E		P	I	G	S		D	E	N	T
L	A	D		I	D	O	L		U	T	A	H
B	R	A		N	A	P	A		L	U	K	E
A	D	M	I	T		G	O	L	D	E	N	
			B	O	K		H	E	E	D		
M	A	T	E		N	A	D	I	R			
A	P	E	X		O	L	E	O		C	U	L
O	R	D		P	L	A	T		M	A	R	Y
			J	O	L	I	E		R	N	E	
			P	A	U	L		R	U	N		
P	I	X	I	E	S		B	U	N	D	Y	
E	P	I	C		T	R	I	O		A	R	I
R	E	N	E		A	Y	L	A		M	A	P
E	R	G	S		B	E	E	T		E	W	E

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THE LOCKHORNS by Bill Hoest

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www.thelockhorns.com

2-17

"THIS IS THE DEN, SINCE ALL LEROY DOES HERE IS HIBERNATE."

CLOSE TO HOME by John McPherson

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www.close-to-home.com

2-17

"I'll say one thing! When we get back to our ship, the social director at Emerald Cruise Lines is going to get a piece of my mind!"

Astrograph

more on your goal and less on what's happened in the past.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- A trip or a conference will change the way you do business. You will gain popularity if you put a unique spin on an idea that has potential.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- You can prosper using your ingenuity, but don't make promises you can't keep. A partnership will be complicated. Trust issues will arise. Be direct, ask questions and take your time.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- A sensitive attitude when dealing with others will help ward off frustration. Personal growth will encourage you to broaden your awareness of the possibilities. Live in the moment.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Reaching out to people or groups that share your concerns will be comforting. Your input will lead to an unexpected offer that will be hard to turn down.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Adjust the way you do things. A change of attitude will help ease stress. Focus

someone to use emotional tactics to change your mind.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Personal problems will lift if you are willing to adjust and comply with the necessary changes required to make life better. A relationship will take a positive turn. Romance is featured.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Your intuition and expressive way of presenting your ideas and plans will win the necessary support from someone who has something to offer. Make proposals, close deals and explore new possibilities.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Fix up your surroundings to suit your plans. A change of heart will encourage you to branch out and try something new. Listen to your heart, not to what an outsider has to say.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Stop thinking about making a change and do something. Refuse to let an emotional situation stand between you and what you feel is best.

Bridge

HELP PARTNER'S LEAD WHENEVER POSSIBLE

Oscar Wilde wrote, "The advantage of the emotions is that they lead us astray." At the bridge table, we should try not to be distracted by our emotions. Also, there are times when we should help partner with his opening lead, not unnecessarily risk his going astray.

In today's deal, for example, how does South get on in six spades after West leads the diamond queen? How about after a heart lead?

The auction was fairly predictable. After North raised spades on the second round, South inquired about aces and kings before settling into six spades.

If East does not make a lead-directing double of five hearts, West will surely lead the diamond queen. Declarer wins that, draws trumps and runs

North 02-17-20

♠ A 9 5 2
♥ J 4
♦ K 8 3
♣ A J 10 9

West

♠ —
♥ 10 9 8 5 2
♦ Q J 10 9
♣ 7 6 4 3

East

♠ 6 3
♥ K Q 7 6
♦ 7 6 4 2
♣ K 5 2

South

♠ K Q J 10 8 7 4
♥ A 3
♦ A 5
♣ Q 8

Dealer: North
Vulnerable: Both

South West North East

1♠ Pass 2♠ Pass
4NT Pass 5♥ Dble!
5NT Pass 6♦ Pass
6♠ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: ♦ Q or ♥ 10