

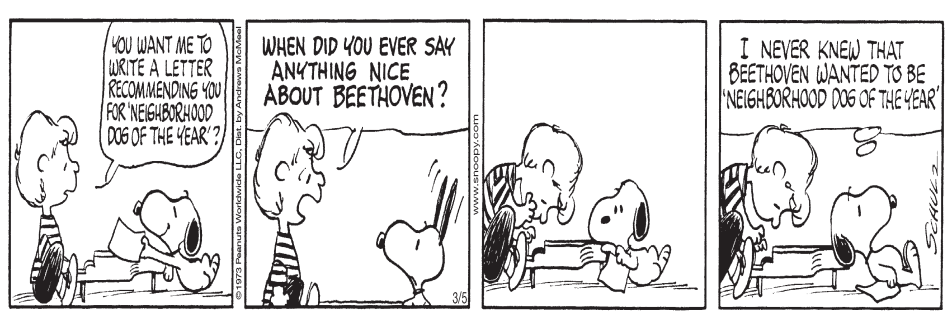
THE BORN LOSER by Art Sampson



GRIZZWELLS by Bill Schorr



PEANUTS by Charles M. Schulz



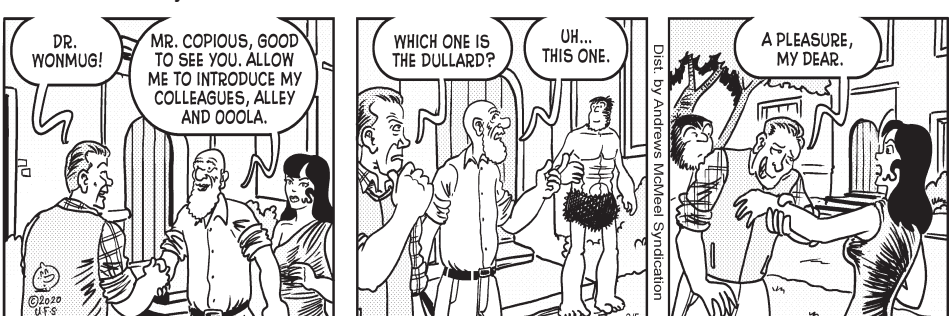
BEETLE BAILEY® by Mort Walker



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 Range
6 Zero-shaped
10 Most pristine
12 Squeezed
14 Maria Conchita
15 Writer with acid
16 Did the tango
18 Uh cousins
19 Toiling away
21 Bone dry
23 Watch chain
24 Elton John's title
26 Type of luck
29 Way back when
30 Once named
32 Boxing match
34 Campus area, briefly
36 Fast food chain
37 Prefix for cycle
38 Wild guess

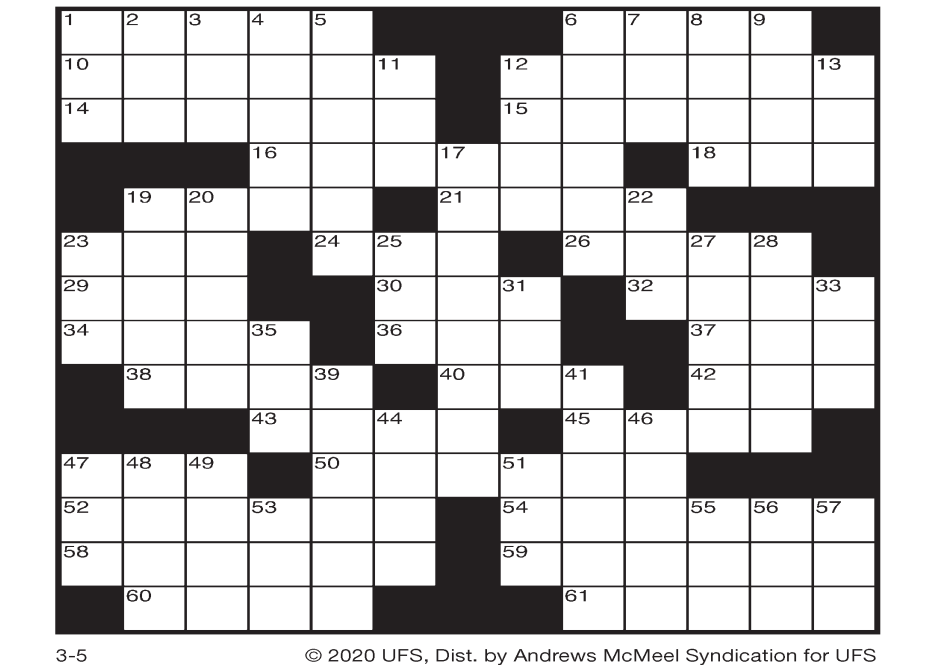
DOWN

1 Health resort
2 — -de-sac
3 Gold, in Peru
4 Remains on hold
5 Composi-tions
6 Surpassed
7 London's Old
8 Hurt
9 Unpleasant look

40 Judge — Bean
42 Muser's mumbling
43 Part of a pump
45 Famed lioness
47 Climber's challenge
50 Proper
52 Most demure
54 Niche
58 Viennese desserts
59 Era
60 Honey wine
61 Flirt

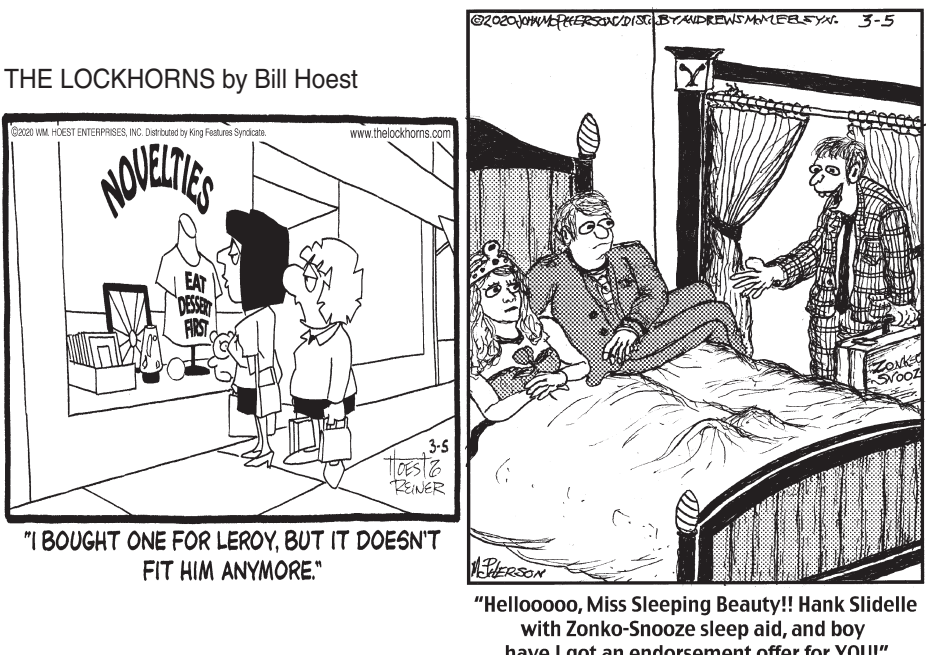
Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

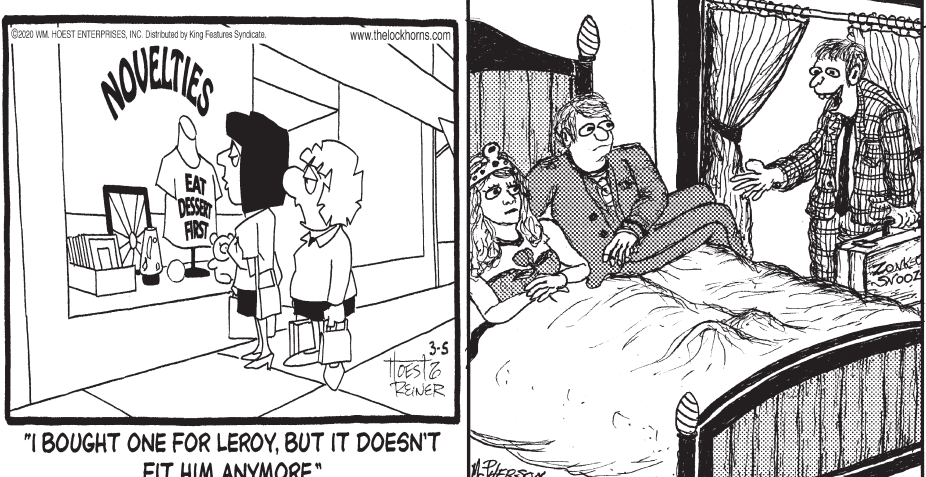


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CLOSE TO HOME by John McPherson



THE LOCKHORNS by Bill Hoest



Astrograph

do your own thing. Romance is featured.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Listen to someone before you respond or make a promise. If you are sincere about your needs, favors will come your way. Don't, however, ask what will be required of you in return.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- It's time to incorporate a new philosophy, life-style or attitude into your routine. Set new goals and get started. An emotional matter should not be allowed to lead you astray.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- A message you receive will lead to a revelation or change of heart. Don't withhold information. Share your feelings and map out your plans. Don't let emotional matters interfere with work.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Make partnerships a priority. Work to find the best way to handle what's unfolding and take control. Set a specific course that pushes you toward success.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- You may have a creative idea, but you'll need to use charm and the power of persuasion to

get others to share your enthusiasm and vision. Communication is key.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Embark on a physical or mental journey that will change the way you think and how you live. Don't let personal problems interfere with your destiny. Do what's best for you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Examine your financial situation. Collect or pay off debts. Stress relief will change how you handle personal matters. Don't get angry with someone for making an honest mistake.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- A career change looks promising. Use your ingenuity and make things happen. Be confident and assertive when making your case. Someone close to you may feel insecure, so include him or her in your success.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- You will learn something valuable that will help you choose a direction more suited to your personality and qualifications. An honest answer will be what counts if you want to gain approval.

Bridge

THE RELATIVELY SAFE DECLARER-PLAY

Albert Einstein's Theory of Relativity confuses almost everyone. However, he did try to explain it in layman terms thus: "When a man sits with a pretty girl for an hour, it seems like a minute. But let him sit on a hot stove for a minute -- and it's longer than any hour. That's relativity."

In bridge, there are relatively safe contracts & relatively unsafe ones. But sometimes a contract that appears safe suddenly is jeopardized. Then the declarer may have to find a clever maneuver to reach home unscathed.

North might have shown his diamond suit, but he preferred to take the uncomplicated route to what he hoped was going to be a lucrative rubber.

After winning the first trick with dummy's club queen,

declarer immediately called for a low diamond. East's heart discard was a rude shock. An apparently easy contract had suddenly turned nasty.

As East seemed to be short in both minor suits, South's first thought was to finesse the diamond jack. Later, he would play East for the spade queen. But in a fleeting moment, he saw that that was an unsafe line, requiring a finesse to succeed.

Instead, South won trick two with the diamond ace, then he led the diamond 5. West had to duck his king, so dummy's queen won. Declarer returned to hand by playing a club to his ace. Finally, South ran the spade jack through West. Whatever the outcome of the finesse, there were 12 guaranteed tricks: 3 spades, 4 hearts, 2 diamonds & 3 clubs. North & South were pleased when this line produced an overtrick.

North		03-05-20	
♠ A 3			
♥ Q 3			
♦ Q 7 6 4 3 2			
♣ K Q 5			
West		East	
♠ Q 7 6		♠ 9 8 5 2	
♥ 4		♥ 9 8 7 6 5 2	
♦ K 10 9 8		♦ —	
♣ J 10 9 7 6		♣ 8 3 2	
South			
♠ K J 10 4			
♥ A K J 10			
♦ A J 5			
♣ A 4			
Dealer: South			
Vulnerable: North-South			
South	West	North	East
2NT	Pass	6NT	All Pass
Opening lead: ♣ J			