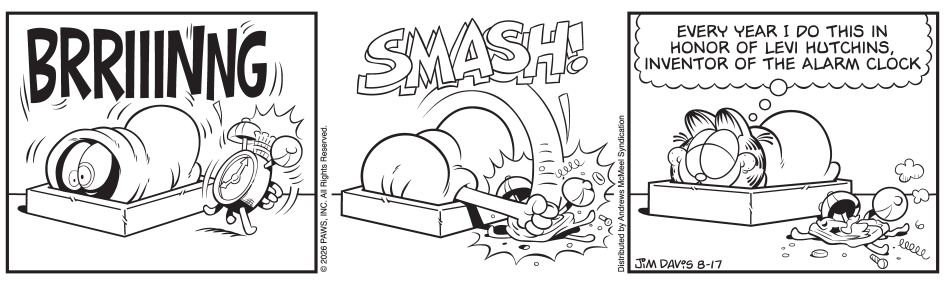
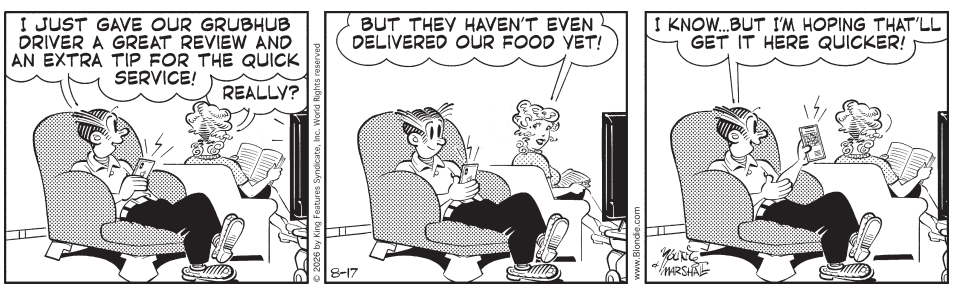
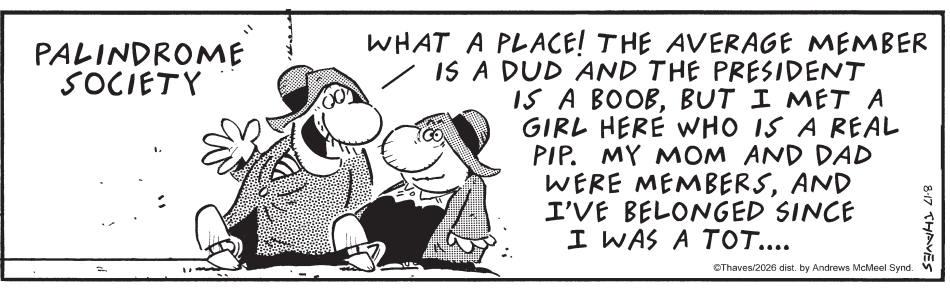
Garfield



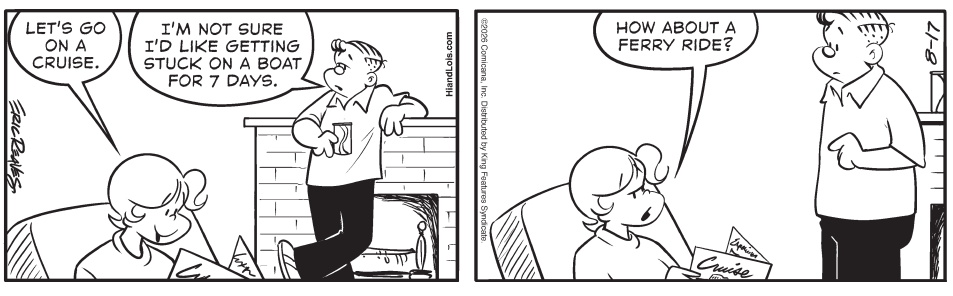
Blondie



Frank & Ernest

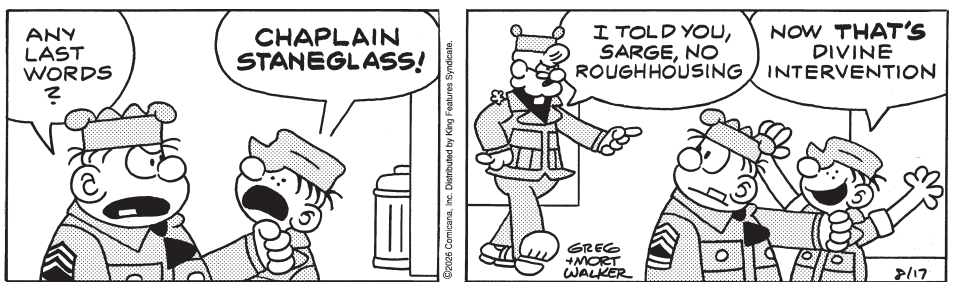


Hi & Lois



Born Loser

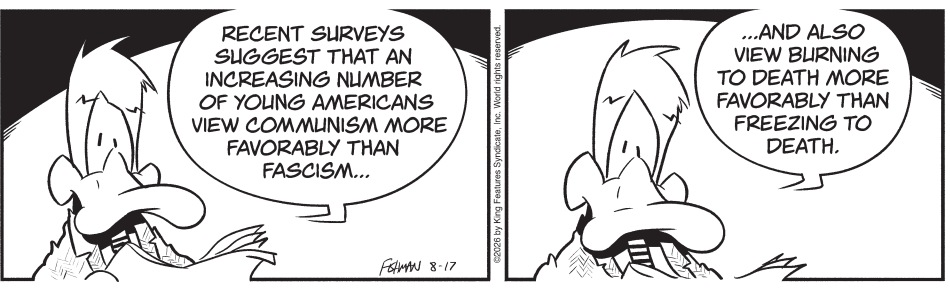
Beetle Bailey



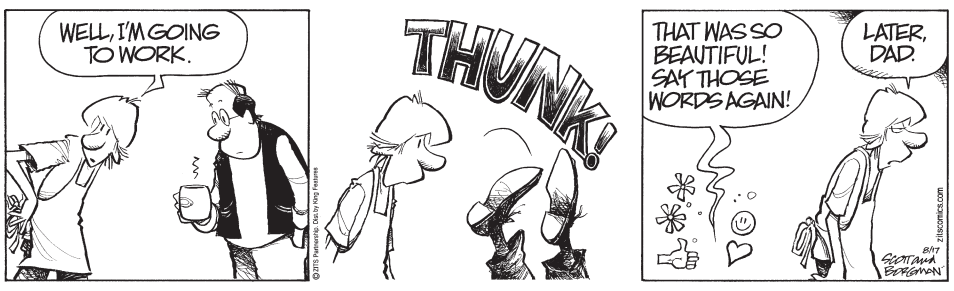
Baby Blues

Snuffy Smith

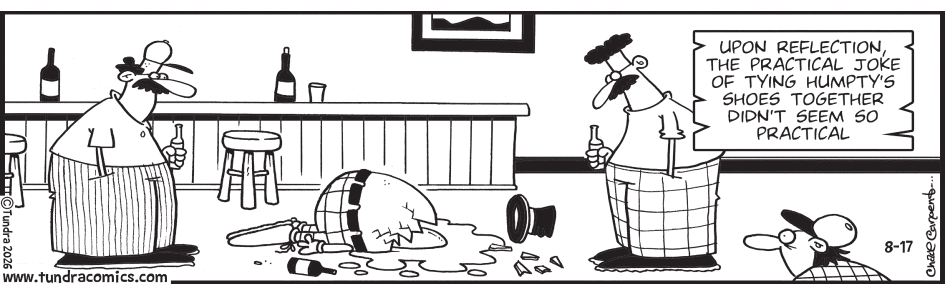
Mallard Fillmore



Zits



Tundra



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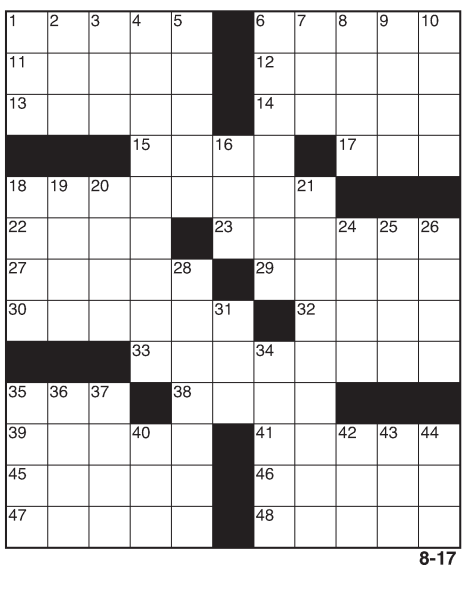
Crossword – By Thomas Joseph

ACROSS
1 Jousting need
6 Stunned
11 Group of top players
12 Banish
13 Aquarium fish
14 Good judgment
15 Peril
17 Beanie or beret
18 Standing stone
22 Death notice, for short
23 Wedding reception events
27 Last inning, usually
29 Cloth fold
30 Liquid in Chinese cooking
32 Brit's "bye!"
33 Blood bit
35 Approves
38 Den
39 Parking pro
41 Patriot Allen
45 San Antonio landmark
46 Roulette bet
47 Abate
48 Ignore the limit

DOWN
1 Back muscle, for short
2 Had a meal
3 Tennis court divider
4 Redhead, informally
5 Some messages
6 In-box setting
7 Log chopper
8 Brass ingredient
9 "Frozen" queen
10 Like an abyss
16 Remain unused
18 — Blanc
19 Theater award
20 Ship of 1492
21 Sleeveless garment
24 Barking beast
25 London museum
26 RBI or ERA
28 Lookout point
31 Anaheim team, on scoreboards
34 Layers
35 Track shape
36 Vitamin-rich green vegetable
37 Thin board
40 Outback bird
42 Color
43 Period of history
44 Homer's neighbor

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

Saturday's answer



8-17

Bridge – By Steven Becker

Famous Hand — part one

West dealer.
East-West vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ K 6 3
♥ K 9 5 3
♦ K J 7
♣ K 8 7

WEST
♠ 7 5
♥ A J 2
♦ Q 10 9 2
♣ 10 9 6 4

EAST
♠ A Q J 9
♥ Q 4
♦ 6 5
♣ Q J 5 3 2

SOUTH
♠ 10 8 4 2
♥ 10 8 7 6
♦ A 8 4 3
♣ A

The bidding:

West	North	East	South
Pass	1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	2 ♥	Dble	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 ♣	3 ♥
Dble	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead — seven of spades.

If you play in events scored by International Match Points — mostly team contests — you know that at this form of scoring, overtricks or undertricks usually are of little consequence. The loss of an IMP here or there, it is said, will rarely make a difference in the outcome.

Remarkably, within less than a half-year's time, a single IMP or two proved to be the deciding factor in two major events. First, in 2003 the United States defeated Italy by just 1 IMP to win the world championship. Then, just five months later, the outcome of the Vanderbilt team championship was altered twice in the same match by an equally infinitesimal margin.

The drama unfolded in the final quarter of the Vanderbilt semifinal between teams led by Nick Nickell and Richard Schwartz. Going into the last 16 deals, Schwartz trailed by the seemingly insurmountable margin of 53 IMPs.

Nevertheless, Schwartz had cut the deficit to 5 IMPs with just this last deal remaining. When it was first played, Larry Cohen and David Berkowitz of the Schwartz team bid and made two hearts, a normal result that seemed unlikely to generate a 5-IMP swing. Even if Nickell's North-South pair at the other table somehow went down in two hearts, this would yield only a 4-IMP gain.

But to the amazement of onlookers, the auction shown transpired with Mike Becker and Schwartz pushing North-South into three hearts. Down one in this contract would not have sufficed, but Becker, desperately fighting for every IMP, elected to make a very close double, knowing that if he was wrong, it would probably cost him the match.

Becker's double made all the difference. The contract went down one, -100. This, combined with +110 at the other table, gave Schwartz's team a gain of 210 points, worth exactly 5 IMPs, and sent the match into an eight-deal playoff. There, a single undertrick determined the outcome, as we shall see tomorrow.

Tomorrow: Famous Hand — part two.

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Word Sleuth

WORD SLEUTH • HASTY PUDDING WOMAN OF THE YEAR

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

Saturday's unlisted clue: FOILS

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.
Monday's unlisted clue hint: MARY TYLER —

Berry	Fonda	Hawn	Theron
Byrne	Garner	Mirren	Zellweger
Close	Goldberg	Reynolds	Zeta-Jones
Eisenhower	Hathaway	Roberts	

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8/17

DAILY CRYPTOQUOTES – HERE'S HOW TO WORK IT:

A X Y D L B A A X R
is L O N G F E L L O W

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

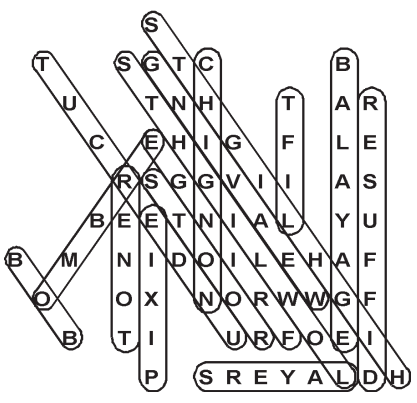
8-17 CRYPTOQUOTE

X J B M Z I G L B L E , X J K M Q L K L U Q G K M A O M X U O H L . B G K O T B C K X J O X B X B M O Q E Q M X : X J K M Q Z Z K G ' M T O M X M X O L U . — M O G O R O Q Z K

Saturday's Cryptoquote: SUMMER IS DELICATELY MADE. WHILE IT IS, IT IS CEASING. — GENEVIEVE TAGGARD

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

WORDS HEARD AT THE HAIR SALON



Horoscope

– By Georgia Nichols

Happy Birthday for Monday, Aug. 17, 2026:
You're persuasive, confident, flamboyant and generous. You're also strong willed with firm convictions. This year you reap the benefits of your hard work! Expect power and leadership in your activities and relationships. It's a time for major decisions and accomplishments. Seize opportunities and act. The spotlight is on you!
The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult
ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ This is a fun-loving, playful day! Enjoy schmoozing with everyone. Sports and fun times with kids will appeal. Be prepared to cooperate with others, because you might have to go more than halfway when dealing with spouses, partners and close friends. Romantic vibes are strong! Tonight: Cooperate and listen to others.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Discussions with an older family member might take place today. The concern could be about practical repairs. If so, wait until the Moon Alert is over to commit to anything. Meanwhile, a work-related romance or flirtation might begin. This is a flirtatious day! Tonight: Get better organized.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ This is a great day for a short trip or a drive. You'll enjoy talking to siblings, relatives and neighbors. You'll also enjoy doing your homework to make plans for the future. (Wait until the Moon Alert is over to commit to anything.) It's also the perfect day for a date or a romantic get-together! Tonight: Socialize!
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ You'll enjoy entertaining at home today. In fact, it's the perfect day (or evening) for a romantic date. You might invite someone over. You also might have a practical, serious discussion about money or finances. If so, wait until the Moon Alert is over to agree to anything. Tonight: A warm conversation.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Today you feel friendly and sociable! In the morning, things are a bit laid-back, but as the day wears on, your energy will pick up. Enjoy schmoozing with others. Discussions about legal or medical matters might be practical and serious -- ditto for travel -- but wait until the Moon Alert is over to act. Tonight: Check your money scene.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ You'll enjoy some privacy today, especially because you might be involved in discussions about inheritances, taxes, debt or shared property. You might want to figure out how to divide something. If so, be aware that things will probably go your way, but be smart and wait until the Moon Alert is over. Tonight: Patience.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ This is a tricky day. The first thing to know is there's a Moon Alert for most of this day. Nevertheless, it's a favorable time for discussions and making plans, but not for agreeing to anything. Do your homework. It's a marvelous day to socialize and explore romantic opportunities. Tonight: You're in charge!
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ People will listen to you today. You have some sensible ideas you want to share, especially related to your job, your health or even a pet. Meanwhile, secret love affairs are taking place for some because romantic vibes are hot today. Check the Moon Alert! Tonight: Enjoy privacy.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Enjoy the company of friends, especially creative people. You might discuss travel opportunities or issues related to the law, medicine, publishing or higher education. Meanwhile, a friendship could turn romantic today. Be aware of the Moon Alert. Tonight: Friendships.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ You make a great impression on others today. Because others see you as warmhearted, generous and attractive, explore romantic opportunities! Meanwhile, practical discussions about finances and shared property might occur. Tonight: You're noticed.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ This is a friendly, sociable day. Enjoy schmoozing with others, especially people from different cultures. Travel will appeal. Someone older or wiser might have advice for you. Romance is percolating! Tonight: Explore!
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Discussions about how to share or divide something will favor you today. However, don't agree to anything important during the Moon Alert. Meanwhile, this is a friendly, romantic day full of fun possibilities. Enjoy yourself! Tonight: Check your finances.

Jumble

JUMBLE®

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ALSSH

LJLEY

ORMCHE

LWEOBB

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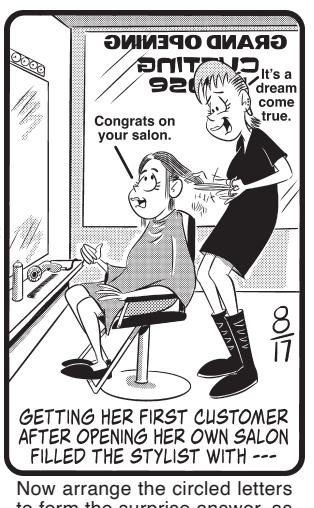
THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Facebook

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print your answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: IDIOT SNIFF LIQUID DRAGON
Answer: He had the small dent in his wife's car repaired to keep her from — "FIND-DING" OUT