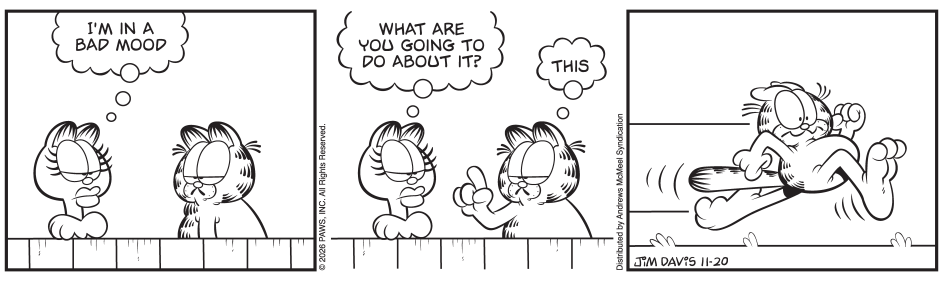
Garfield



Blondie



Frank & Ernest



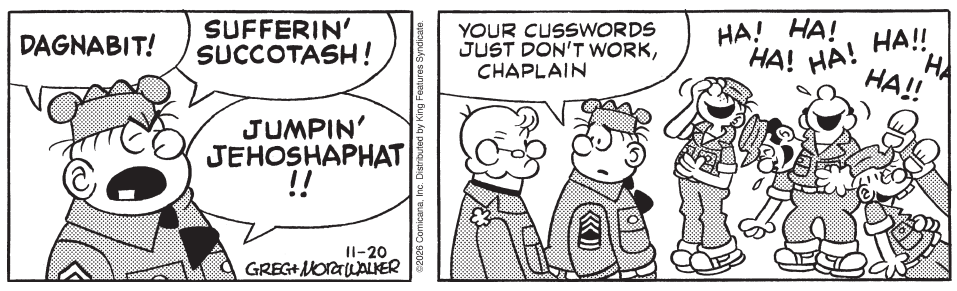
Hi & Lois



Born Loser



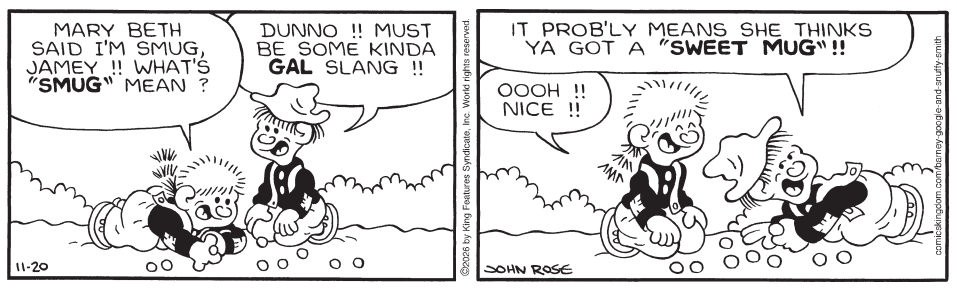
Beetle Bailey



Baby Blues



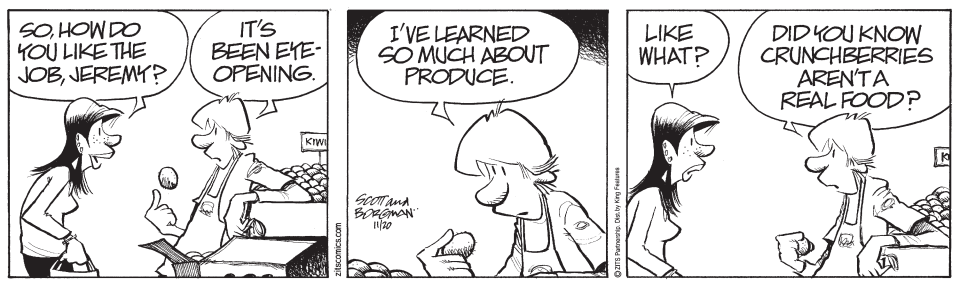
Snuffy Smith



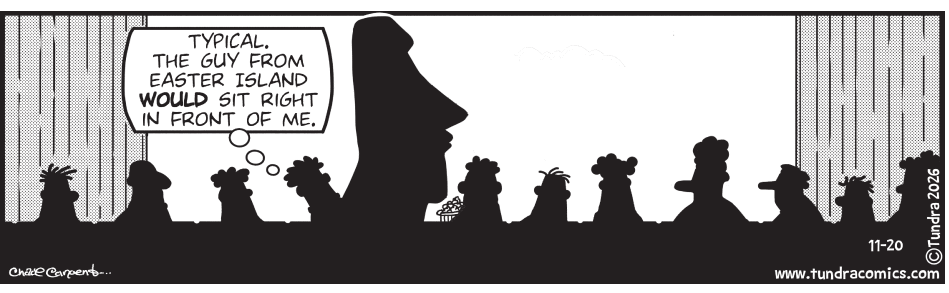
Mallard Fillmore



Zits



Tundra





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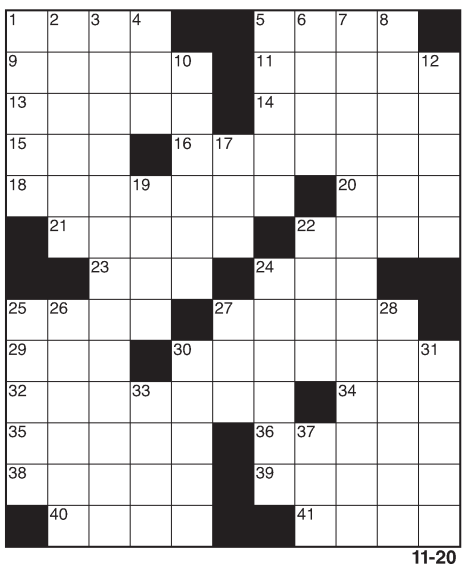
Crossword – By Thomas Joseph

ACROSS
1 Days gone by
5 Encircle
9 Knight wear
11 Orchestra members
13 Nary a soul
14 Lean
15 Moody music
16 Florida neighbor
18 Prepares to shave
20 That lady
21 Avoids
22 Sibilant summons
23 Harden
24 — canto
25 Heavy metal
27 Women's quarters
29 French friend
30 Tricked
32 Fast-growing cereal grains
34 Genetic stuff
35 Saucer occupant
36 Bird-related
38 Trig functions
39 Chop up
40 Beast
41 A long time

DOWN
1 Seminar group
2 Kitchen come-ons
3 Something easy
4 Great weight
5 "Vacation" singers
6 Structural support
7 Something hard
8 Refuses
10 King's stand-in
12 Kick off
17 Hosp. sections
19 Tinted
22 Llama's land
24 Fragrant wood
25 Eastern monks
26 Designer Pucci
27 — up (agitated)
28 Threat
30 Slow-witted
31 Hamlet extras
33 Lewd look
37 Through

Yesterday's answer

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



Bridge – By Steven Becker

Test your play

1. You are declarer with the West hand at Seven Hearts, and North leads the nine of trump. How would you play the hand?

West	East
♠ A K 8 5	♠ 7 4
♥ A K Q J 10	♥ 4 2
♦ A K	♦ 8 5 2
♣ 8 3	♣ A K Q 7 6 5

2. You are declarer with the West hand at Three Notrump. North leads the queen of diamonds, on which South plays the seven. How would you play the hand?

West	East
♠ A K	♠ Q J 3
♥ J 8 7 4	♥ A 6 5
♦ A 9 6 2	♦ 8 3
♣ A Q J	♣ 10 9 8 7 5

* * *

1. You have a choice between drawing all the opposing trumps and hoping that the missing clubs are divided 3-2, or winning the trump lead and then playing the A-K and another spade, planning to ruff in dummy. The danger in the latter line of play is that if the opposing spades are divided 5-2 or 6-1, either defender may ruff the second or third lead.

This is strictly a matter of percentages. There is a 68% chance that the adverse clubs are divided 3-2, but only a 62% chance of the spades dividing 4-3. Because the favorable club division is more likely than the favorable spade division, the best approach is to draw trump and rely on the clubs to break 3-2 rather than try to ruff a spade in dummy.

2. You can count nine potential tricks: four clubs, three spades, a heart and a diamond. The problem is how to collect them, as both black suits are blocked, and you are short of entries to dummy. You might not be able to achieve your goal if the North-South cards are divided unfavorably, but careful play will nevertheless give you an excellent chance.

You start by winning the queen of diamonds with the ace, since there is almost no chance that North-South can cash more than three diamond tricks. Furthermore, taking the first trick avoids the possibility that North might shift to a heart and drive out your only entry to dummy's club and spade tricks.

Next, you play the A-K of spades and A-Q of clubs. If the club queen loses to the king, your worries are over, because whenever you get to dummy with a heart, you can discard your bothersome jack of clubs on dummy's queen of spades to unblock the club suit. If the club queen holds the trick, you continue with the jack, forcing out the king if the missing clubs are divided 3-2.

Observe that it is vital to cash your A-K of spades early; if you fail to do so, you might find yourself unable to unblock the clubs later on.

Tomorrow: Putting it all together.

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Word Sleuth

WORD SLEUTH ● LACK OF —

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

Thursday's unlisted clue: PATRICK

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.
Friday's unlisted clue hint: FORTY WINKS

Access, Appetite, Attention, Awareness, Clarity, Confidence, Energy, Evidence, Focus, Foresight, Motivation, Respect, Support, Time, Trust

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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.

11-20 **CRYPTOQUOTE**

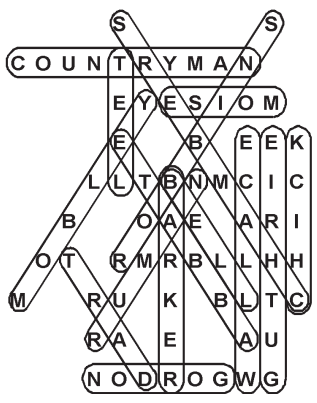
N T U C C N L A N E G V C N T P N K K A A X M P K A G P A E P ' K K Q N I N X Y N X M U K A E D , X M P E C P X G P L A X M U X U E L N ' G M U Q Q V .

— D C U L V K W E N D M X

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: I WOULD VENTURE TO WARN AGAINST TOO GREAT INTIMACY WITH ARTISTS AS IT IS VERY SEDUCTIVE AND A LITTLE DANGEROUS. — QUEEN VICTORIA

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

U.S. FEMALE RACING DRIVERS



Horoscope

– By Georgia Nichols

A welcome change of atmosphere arrives today as the Moon moves through energetic ARIES. People are more inclined to take initiative and act on their ideas. You might feel restless in a positive way, eager to break out of familiar routines and explore new possibilities. Your ambition and intuition are strong, and you'll likely feel more independent and confident about making decisions. This is an excellent day to meet new people, explore new ideas, or take the first steps toward something you've been considering. There is, however, a brief period this afternoon when discouragement or self-doubt might creep in. Don't give this too much importance. It will pass. As Amy March says in "Little Women," "I am not afraid of storms, for I am learning how to sail my ship."

Moon Alert: After 1 a.m. Eastern, there are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions today. The Moon is in ARIES.

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)
★★★★ Your ambition and intuition are strong today, and you'll feel independent and energetic! Even your psyche capabilities are tuned on. New ideas and new encounters are classic today. Stay light on your feet because it's a changing landscape. Pay attention to everything you say and do. Tonight: You win!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ You might feel slightly restless today, but it's an exciting feeling. Secret news or something happening behind the scenes might surprise you. Meanwhile, pay attention to your money and your possessions because something unexpected could impact them. (You don't want any loss through theft or damage.) Tonight: Enjoy privacy.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ This is an interesting day, which is a good thing because you don't do boring. A friend or a member of a group might surprise you. In a discussion with someone, you might come up with a new angle to approach something in the future or some new goals. This is a productive day. Tonight: Be friendly!

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ Be aware that you're high-viz today, which means people notice you more than usual. Fortunately, they see you as independent, strong and reliable. Nevertheless, take time to enjoy social outings, sports and fun times with kids. Tonight: You're admired.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Changes to travel plans are likely today. You might also be surprised by something in the news pertaining to politics, religion or racial issues. Steer clear of touchy subjects because emotional outbursts might occur. Listen to a family discussion. Tonight: Learn something new.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ Keep an eye on your banking needs and anything to do with shared property, taxes and debt because something unusual could impact your assets. On the upside, gifts and goodies might suddenly come your way. (But you might also have to pay the piper.) Tonight: Check your finances.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Partnerships and close friendships might surprise you today. Someone might be vocal about their demands or wishes. Perhaps you feel a stronger than usual sense of obligation to someone. Make a point of listening to what someone says to make sure you really hear them. Tonight: Listen and cooperate.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Your work routine might be interrupted today because of emotional outbursts or someone deciding they have to tell it like it is. (Maybe that someone is you.) Show respect for older colleagues and coworkers who might want your attention. Tonight: Get better organized.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Parents should be extra vigilant today because this is a mildly accident-prone day for your kids, who for whatever reason might be an increased responsibility. Meanwhile, this is an upbeat, energetic day! You might also have an unexpected opportunity to socialize or enjoy sports. Tonight: Enjoy socializing.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ Small appliances might break down at home today or a minor breakage could occur. Or perhaps someone unexpected will appear at your door? A conversation with an older family member is likely. Meanwhile, this is a popular day with young people. Reach out and enjoy the company of someone. Tonight: Relax.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Because you have lots of mental energy today, you're full of innovative, clever ideas. Keep your eyes open because your daily plans might change. (Pay attention to what you say and do because this is a mildly accident-prone day for you.) Discussions with authorities will go well. Tonight: A conversation.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Today you might see new ways to earn money or boost your existing earnings. However, something unexpected might also impact your assets, possessions and finances, so keep your eyes open. Protect what you own against loss, theft or damage. You might see ways to repair or improve something. Tonight: Check your belongings.

If your birthday is Nov. 20:
You're active, progressive, influential and perceptive. You identify with your goals. Exciting changes and increased personal freedom will occur this year. Stay flexible. Let go of things that impede your growth. Seek out new opportunities and be ready to act fast. Be prepared to travel and expand your horizons.

Jumble

JUMBLE®

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

MCAOE

ESEGE

NIYLGF

RDYAHL

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



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

" ◯◯ - ◯◯◯◯ - ◯◯◯◯ "

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: CREST MINCE ENTICE POUNCE
Answer: Liō unveils what he considers to be his absolute — "MONSTERPIECE"

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